

A HISTORY OF
TOTTENHANGER



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Ellis K. Waterhouse

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Dond Aldenham
from J. van Koughnet

A HISTORY
OF
TYTTENHANGER

THE GETTY CENTER
LIBRARY



Tytlenhanger House, built by Sir Henry Blount, 1654.

A HISTORY
OF
TYTTENHANGER

BY
LADY JANE VAN KOUGHNET



MARCUS WARD & Co., LIMITED
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P R E F A C E.

IF the annals of a small country place are not kept, soon they will have faded away for ever.

Our childhood was enlivened by stories of Tyttenhanger. Each spot had its own tradition. No doubt they were commonplace tales, but deeply interesting we thought them, and those who told us these stories are all now silent. Therefore Caledon has requested me to write down some of our recollections, and, in addition to the facts transmitted to us, we have collected from various papers, books, and remnants of letters enough to form a little history ; and although slight, it will prevent, we hope, the many lives which have been spent in the quiet of old Tyttenhanger from being quite forgotten by their descendants.

In our fancy we can see those centuries of diverse characters pass before us.

The Monk, the Cardinal, the King, the maiden Princess. They move on.

The Savant, and the children following, slowly stepping into their places. Still on.

The country Squire, with lace ruffles and gold snuff-box ; the prim Dame, in pearls and satin ; the Lawyer, with wig and gown, for ever on they are passing.

Then nearer to us they are coming, yet always moving on. Nearer still, and they touch us ! Then we feel that, with them, we are passing on.

It is to their memory we dedicate our recollections, and to the memory of a widowed Grandmother and Mother, who both died here and are buried in one grave.

JANE C. E. VAN KOUGHNET.

Tyttenhanger, 1895.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

TYTTENHANGER HOUSE	- - - - -	<i>Frontispiece.</i>
SIR THOMAS POPE, FOUNDER OF TRINITY COLLEGE,		
OXFORD	- - - - -	<i>To face p. 23</i>
SIR HENRY BLOUNT, "THE TRAVELLER"	- - - - -	<i>„ p. 46</i>
CATHERINE FREMAN (HONBLE. MRS. CHARLES		
YORKE)	- - - - -	<i>„ p. 108</i>
GENEALOGICAL TREE	- - - - -	<i>End of Book.</i>

EXTRACT FROM SIR HENRY BLOUNT'S COMMON-
PLACE BOOK.

“The Desire of Memory after Death is an Instinct in Mankind. And therefore all waies have been taken to perpetuate Men's Names and Memories; Children, and great Houses, and noble Deeds, and Books, and Monuments; yea, and as if Earth wanted things sufficiently lasting to satisfie this Appetite of Immortality; Men have placed themselves in the regions of Incorruption, and have called the Stars by their own Names. Now this universal Thirst after such an Imaginary Immortality is an inducement to believe there is a real one; Since did we cease to be, as soon as we Dy and dissappear to this World, such an appetite would be unreasonable and ridiculous: For why should we desire a precarious Being in a Name and Memory, if We our Selves were so shortly to be Nothing? Of what Concernment is it to us to be remembred, if in a few daies all things should be forgotten for ever, and we were to go into an Eternal Silence and Oblivion? What would a Stone be the better for being accounted one of the Ancient Pillars of Seth? Or a piece of Wood in being esteem'd a Sacred Relique of the Cross? In fine, Mankind hath an Appetite of Memory after Death, w^{ch} would be Senseless, and to no purpose, if there be no Life but this. Now God implants no Instinct in his Creatures that are either useless or vain; and therefore we may conclude, that there is a Future Being.

“GLANVIL.”



TYTTENHANGER.



THE name *Tyttenhanger* is a corruption of the ancient name *Tydenhangre*. *Tyden* signifies "hides of land;" *angre* is an old name for a wood growing on a declivity. In the *Book of Benefactors* it is spelt *Tytynhangre*. This makes it probable that the word signifies two hides of wooded land on the side of a hill.

Tyttenhanger is situated in the parish of Ridge. It is not known when Ridge became a parish, for the name does not occur in the Abbey annals until the 15th century.

The estate of Tydenhangre belonged to the family of Albiny, descendants of Robert de Tothence, who took the name of Robert de Belvoir. It was given as a grant to them by the Conqueror. Richard Albiny made a donation of the estate, parish, and tithes to the Abbey of St. Albans, either during the abbacy of the Abbot Geoffry, in the year 1119 or earlier, for we find that Geoffry assigned Blackhide (now Coursers) in Ridge for the maintenance of Sopwell nunnery, founded by him. Richard de Tydenhangre is mentioned as sacrist to the

possibly the
gift had
not been con-
cluded at
the time of
Albiny's death

Abbey during the abbacy of the Abbot, William de Trumpington, in the year 1214.

Hugo de Eversden, who became Abbot in 1308, acquired about 100 acres here from John de Rammesden.

Abbot Richard de Walyngford caused some repairs to be made to the farms of Tydenhangre. In 1335, in the month of May, the Abbot Walyngford died. He was succeeded the same year by Michael Mentmore, who ordered that an addition should be made to the salary of the almoner, to be taken from the land of Tydenhangre beyond the water, also 10 acres of land at Colney; and here is the first separation and distinct allotment of that portion of tithe which, at the dissolution of the monasteries, went to the Crown with all the other estates, and was granted, along with the estate of Tyttenhanger, to Sir Thomas Pope, and confirmed to him by letters patent of Edward VI.

Abbot Mentmore found he could not enjoy any repose at his mansion of Tydenhangre, by reason of the great concourse of people who, both going and coming from London, would turn from the road to pay their duty to my Lord the Abbot. He repaired a mansion called Bradelkey, and resided there. The Abbot then demolished Tydenhangre, and sold the materials, in 1340.

The house seems to have risen again soon after, for Abbot Thomas de la Mare lodged here in 1350 on his return from Rome, and before his instalment in the Abbey Church. The annalists reckon it among the faults of this Abbot that he allowed this manor to fall into decay.

In the year 1396, John Moote, 31st Abbot, built

“two farm houses with proper offices from a hay-barn to an ox-house” on the manor of Tydenhangre.

One feature to the northern part of the manor is the moorland called Colney Heath, *i.e.*, “the Coln island heath,” which intimates its watery character. It is still subject to floods.

The natural advantages of Tydenhângre, consisting of the abundant supply of water, the fine wood, fertile soil, and rich pastures (it was also said to be blessed with good air and most delightful prospects), induced John Moote to make it a better dwelling, and he expended thereon—although the work was not half completed at the time of his death—£360 8s. 6d., besides carriage and victuals for the workmen.

The building of this mansion gave rise to much discussion. Some said—“It would be so pleasant, it would attract the King or some great lord, and that it might be difficult to deny it to them;” others said—“That it would draw away the Abbot and many of the brethren from the monastery, and that if the Abbot wanted quiet and repose he would not find it there, by reason of its being so near the London road that he would have so many visitors to whom he could not deny himself.” But the Abbot cared for none of these things, and only hastened on the building, and extorted so much work from the tenants that they complained of the loss it was to their farms; but he cared not, so that he gratified his own tastes. However, the work was deemed unlucky, not only because it brought vexation on those employed, but also brought the Abbot to his end, for on the day of All Saints, immediately after the celebration of the Mass, he

was seized, at Tydenhangre, with dreadful pain, and lost the use of his hands. He was taken to the Abbey, where he died in 1401.

Abbot William Heyworth completed the building about the date 1407. He also stocked the fish-ponds. The chronicler says it was reputed the finest country residence in the kingdom.

His successor, Abbot John Wheathampstead, added to the fame of the mansion. In his first abbacy he enlarged the chapel and inserted stained glass windows, which cost £16. Weever informs us, on the authority of a destroyed MS., that in the walls he caused to be painted the similitudes of all the saints of his own Christian name John, with his own picture, which seemingly thus prayeth—

“Cum fero par nomen, par ferre precor simul omen;
Tum paribusque pari, licet impar, luce locari.”

“O happy omen, that I bear your name;
May I, like you, the heavenly mansions gain.”

He also repaired the study, and transacted a good deal of business here in his leisure hours. A considerable portion of the ancient wainscotting is to be seen in the present house.

In the year 1429, John of Wheathampstead terminated a serious dispute which had commenced “in the year 1401, during the lifetime of the Abbot William Heyworth, between him and John Knollys, a citizen of London, and Lord of Myms, concerning the straying of cattle into the shrubs and wild ground of Tydenhangre. The predecessors of each had made an arrangement that the cattle should pasture there year about; but the new Abbot,

John of Wheathampstead, in 1420, claimed every year's cattle and would allow no partnership, for that the common or waste called Colney Heath or Tydenhangre Heath was wholly in the Lordship of Tydenhangre, and put Knollys in mind that he, the Abbot, and servants of the Abbey, had right of way through the fields and enclosures of the said Knollys to the manor of Northaw, and proposed to relinquish this claim if he would grant leave to the Abbot to enclose that part of the common called Colney Heath or Tydenhangre Heath, lying near a certain farm belonging to the said Abbot called Coursers, and thirty acres of land and pastures. To this Knollys assented, and, when all was settled, the Abbot caused the ground to be cleared, and on the east side made a deep ditch, and set up a strong pole fence, and the west side he turned into good pasture land. This done, he considered the state of the meadows and pastures near the mansion house, and calling together the tenants he persuaded them, for a compensation, to give up their respective claims, which they agreeing to, and the money paid, he made a strong hedge and ditch round the whole, and thus 'rendered the place of his abode and delight' more fair and pleasant, besides more secret and private for walking; moreover, he stocked the new enclosure with deer." He was so much pleased with the arrangement that he wrote a poem on "The charms of rural retirement at Tydenhangre." A place called Parkgate Corner marks the limit of the deer-park in the north, which extended on either side of the Colne, and remained a fenced park until the beginning of the present century.

“ In 1442 Abbot John Wheathampstead had on his manor farm 59 cows and 2 bulls, which he was directed to deliver up to his successor, Abbot John Stoke, by the award of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester (on 1st September), concerning the dispute which had arisen on the resignation of Abbot Wheathampstead.”

In 1462, during the abbacy of William Alban, on July 3rd, the vicarage of Rugge (Ridge) was conferred on Mr. James Waleys, chaplain, at the instance of Henry Frowyk, Esq.; and this reason is given—“ because the late Vicar, John Bernard, had been indicted by the parishioners of Hadley, in the county of Middlesex, for certain deep treasons and felonies, on which account he had taken flight and absented himself from the place.”

Abbot William Wallingford resided much at Tydenhangre, and signed many documents from there. Banns of marriage had been used in all former times, and directed to be published thrice in the parish church : but here it occurs that the Abbot could give licence for two persons to be married in the chapel situated in his manor. A marriage licence was given to a man named Kylborn ; it was dated “ In manerio nostro de Titenhangre, anno 1476.” A licence was given this year to one William Fritz, who had contracted marriage with Margaret Gylbert, a widow, in the parish of Rugge (Ridge), “ that they be married in the chapel situate in our manor de la Weld.” Amongst many documents signed here was a grant to Lord William Hastings to be seneschal of the Abbey, dated “ at our usual residence of Tydenhangre, December 20th, 1479.”

In 1477, a letter had come from the King's exchequer

directing the Abbot, or rather allowing him to collect, for the use of the holy see, the first fruits or annates and other payments due to the Pope, and arising within the Abbot's jurisdiction ; and the year 1480, the Pope's collector in England, by name " John Gighe, came to the Abbot, at his usual abode at Titenhangre ; he brought 6 servants and 1 chaplain, and stayed 6 days."

Amongst the monastic annals is a record of rental of lands acquired at Tydenhangre, by Abbot Ramryge, in 1506, viz. :—" From Robert Nycols, for five crofts of land and wood, called Pagys in Ruge, lately belonging to Thomas Deyer, 16s. 8d.; also rent of a tenement and lands in Ruge lately John Ashleze's, 21s."

The Abbots continued to make Tyttenhanger their delight and resting-place until the dissolution of the monasteries in the time of Henry VIII., which took place in the year 1539. In the grounds at the present time is a long grass bank, resembling a terrace walk, and some curiously uneven ground. These were the fish-ponds of the Abbots, since drained and grassed over. One in the kitchen garden by the east wall was in existence until quite recently, and full of tench ; it was divided in the centre by a small bridge or footway. The underground cellars, in massive stone, were those made by the Abbots. The archway leading to the beer cellar, on the east side of the house, was built by them, and is well preserved.

The ancient house covered a large portion of ground, especially to the south of the present edifice, and the meadow on that side is still full of remains of brick, pottery, etc., a few feet beneath the surface. The

present house is said in most part to have been rebuilt from the materials of the old one, the great age of some of the brickwork giving it the beautiful and remarkable colour. The old panel was also utilised, some of which is of the linen pattern. Close to the house, on the north-west side, and above the level of the cellars, is an opening in the ground leading to an underground vault or passage. The story is that it had been used as a secret way. It is more probable that it may have been used by the monks in time of trouble to hide their treasure. A very old broken iron key was found near the spot.

There has been handed down to us one most interesting tradition connected with Tyttenhanger. "The house was so large that in 1528, during the sweating sickness, Henry VIII., his Queen, and retinue, took refuge here from London."

The same incident is also given by Holinshed, under the year 1528. He says—"In the end of Maie began in the city of London the disease called sweating sickness, which afterwards affected all places in the realm. By reason of this the Tearme was adjourned, and the Circuit of the assizes also.

"The King (Henry VIII.) for a space removed almost every day, till he came to Tintinhanger, a place of the Abbot of St. Albans, and there he, with the Queen and a small companie about them, remained till the sickness was past."

Twelve months before this, in July, 1527, Henry had corresponded with Wolsey, purposing to divorce Queen Katherine. He had been married to her for 17 years: she was 6 years older than him: her beauty was decayed.

He was commencing to entertain doubts respecting the lawfulness of his marriage with his brother's widow. Wolsey fortified the King's scruples with a view to marrying him to a French Princess ; but it was not until May 23rd, 1533, that Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, pronounced sentence, by which he annulled the King's marriage with Katherine as unlawful and invalid from the beginning. The King privately celebrated his marriage with Anne Boleyn the same year. During his stay at Tyttenhanger, the King appears to have treated Katherine of Arragon with respect.

Cardinal Wolsey remained at Hampton Court during the whole of this visit of Henry's at Tyttenhanger. The King travelled there from Bishop's Hatfield. A letter* from Sir John Russell to Wolsey, dated 26th June, 1528, states that the King arrived at Hatfield Palace on that day. His following was limited to the officers of the Privy Chamber (about 15 persons). His stay at Tyttenhanger was 13 days, from 28th June to 11th July (the 5th July seems to have been the only Sunday the King spent there). He was well pleased with the mansion, and purposed making some alteration or addition, besides that of making a window in the Abbot's Chapel, to render the altar (and mass service) visible from the hall. His departure to Ampthill Castle, in Bedfordshire, was hastened by the illness of the Marchioness of Exeter. She was Gertrude, Marchioness of Exeter, daughter of William Blount (Lord Mountjoy) and Elizabeth Say. She was attainted of treason on frivolous pretexts in 1538, and imprisoned. Her husband, Henry Courtenay (Lord

* *Vide Domestic State Papers*, Letter 148.

Chamberlain), Marquis of Exeter, was first cousin to the King, being the son of Catherine Plantagenet, youngest daughter of Edward IV., and William Courtenay, Earl of Devon. He was brought up with the King. In 1538 he was attainted for corresponding with Reginald Pole, and beheaded Dec. 12.

Thomas Heneage, who corresponded with Wolsey on behalf of the King, was son of John Heneage of Hainton, Lincolnshire. He was gentleman usher to Wolsey, then gentleman of the King's privy chamber; knighted in 1537; received many grants of lands of the dissolved monasteries; died Oct., 1537. His monumental brass is in Hainton Church. His nephew, Sir Thomas Heneage, was vice-chamberlain to Queen Elizabeth.*

The following letters are copied from State Papers of Henry VIII., Part I., vol. i. :—

Letter CXLIX. Hennege to Wolsey.

“Tittenhanger, 29 June, 1528.

“Humely sewythe unto Your Grace that I have recevyd Mr. Arundell's letters, where in he wrytyth, that for the extreme danger of the vehement infection and sykenes, that is fallen amonges Your Grace's folkes this last nyte, Your Grace entendythe to remove to Hampton Cowerte; which I sewyd unto the Kynges Hynes; where of the Kyng is very sory, especyally to have you so far from hym: notwithstanding Hys Hynes is content, and wold have you to goo to Hampton Cowerte owte of that aere . . . Wryten in hast, this Sent Peters day, by Your humell and bowyndyn Servant,

(signed) “THOMAS HENNEGE.”

* *Vide* “Dictionary of National Biography.”

Letter CL. Hennege to Wolsey.

“Tittenhanger, 30 June, 1528.

“Humely sewyth unto Your Grace the Kynges Hynes hartly recommendyth hym unto you, and preyythe you to be of good cowymford and to do as he doyth : and sory he ys that Your Grace ys so far from hym, and wold that yf hit plese God to vicete any mo of youre folkes aboyte you, that then Your Grace should cum to Sent Albang, with a smale numbere with you : there every howre on of you mygthe here of the other, and that his physytions myghte be as well for Your Grace as for hym, iff any chans should fortune. This morneyng knowlege came to the Kynges Hynes of the deythe of Sir Wylliam Compton, and that he shoulde be lost by neclygens in lettynge hym slepe in the bygynnyng of his swete. Devers there ys that makythe seute to the Kyng for his offeces ; but His Grace wol give non, unto such tym as he have knowlege from Your Grace, how many offeces he had of hys gyfte, and what they be ; and desyrythe you to send sum wyce servant of yowres, to serche in the Chansry and other places, and to make hym a byll of the same, and to send hyt to Hys Hynes, as shortly as ye cane. Thankyd be God, this nygthe ther ys never on in the Cowerte, ne ny abowte the Cowerte, fallyn syke, and they that sykenyd on Sunday nygthe be recoveryd, and perfectly hole agene, so that with good keepynge there ys no daynger. And I esewer Your Grace, the Kyng regeysythe myche that he ys as myry this morneyng as I have syen Hys Hynes, thankyd be Jhesu, who preserve you. Wryten in haste this Twisday at 11 of the Clock, by Your etc. I eswer Your Grace I have not, ne woll, speke for any of seyde offeces for myselffe ; for yff I shoulde, I thyncke His Hynes woll thynke myche pre-sumptuysnes in me, consydering the lytell tyme that I have been in his servyce. This present hower, as the Kyng was at Mas, the Kyng send for Mr. Herytage for the making of a new wynde in youre Closet there, as his folkes may stonde in youre grete chambre, and here Mas, and not to cum in to youre Closet, bycause hit ys so lytle, which shal be doyn with dyligens—etc.

(signed) “THOMAS HENNEGE.”

Letter CLII. Hennege to Wolsey.

“Tittenhanger, 1st July, 1528.

“Humely sewyth unto Your Grace, that, thanckyd be Jhesu, the Kinges Hynes ys very well and myry, and all his howsold here

excep on of his Warderape, and a gentleman's servant, which 2 fell syke this nyte After the wrytyng of the premissis, I recevyd Your Graces letters, and sewyd the Kynge the tenor of them. As for suche offeces as Sir Wylliam Compton had of the Quene gyffte, His Hynes woll not spek to the Quene, but woll that sew shal bestow them at hir plesur to hir owyn servaunts; excepte on that he haythe goten for the servant of his, Shelor, whyche ys the keypyng of Odyham Parke. This morenyng, as His Hynes was in making hym redy he haythe givein commawynment to the Cofferer to make provysion at Amptyll, in cause that anythyng shold fortune, he mygthe, withowt let, goo thether at on removyng.

"Sir the Kynge desyrythe you to send hym the byll that Mr. Fynche made for the remedy of all suche as have fallyn syke in youre howse; for as His Hynes ys enformyd, he haythe doyne very well boythe to bryng them to there swheyte ageine, when they fall owte, and also to swayge the grete hete and burnyng. Wryten this Wensday, at 8 of the cloke, by your humele and most bowyndyn servant,

(signed) "THOMAS HENNEGE."

Letter CLIII. Hennege to Wolsey.

"Tittenhanger, 4 July, 1528.

"Humely sewythe unto your Grace that the Kynges Hynes ys myry and in good helythe, thankyed be Jhesu. His Hynes lykythe youre mynyon Howse so well that he perposythe not to departe so shortly from thens as he apoyntyd, and as I late wrote unto your Grace. . . . Wryten this Saterday at 11 of the cloke, by your humell and most bowyndyn servant,

"THOMAS HENNEGE."

Letter CLIV. Hennege to Wolsey.

"5 July, 1528.

"Please it youre Grace to understand, that the Kynges Hynes this mornyng, being advertised, Your Grace purposed to have come, and visited hym as tomorow, commaunded me to write unto Your Grace to differ your saide commyng, untill the tyme be more propiciouse: for as yet he feareth and thinketh not mete Your Grace's Company and hys shuld joyne in oon howse, and is

mervelouse gladd that he is so nighe unto Your Grace, saying—‘I am right glad my Lordes Grace is so nere hand, for now if any casualtie shold happen, I may have redy and speddy word from hym;’ assuring Your Grace that his Hynes is so well contented in all poyntes with his lodgings, with the aire and site of this your place, as ever I sawe hym ells where to be. Furthermore, His Hynes willed me by these letters to desire Your Grace to cawse generall processions to be made unyversally through the realme, as well for the good wetheringes, to thencrease of corne and fruyte, as also for the plage that now reignethe. And thus Jesu send your Grace long felicite.

“From Titten Hanger, this Sonday By Your humbly and most bonden servant,

(signed) “THOS. HENNEGE.”

Letter CLVI. Dr. Bell to Wolsey.

Dated from Tittenhanger, 7 July, 1528, contains directions from the King about church promotions. He is anxious for Wolsey's health. The sickness commences to abate.

Letter CLVII. Hennege to Wolsey.

“ . . . and this morneynge he hathe word that my Lady Marques of Exeter ys syke of the comon sykenes, whiche causythe His Hynes to apoynt to remove opon Seterday, from hens to Amtyll, and hathe comawyndyd that all suche as where in my seyde Lord Marquys compeny, and my seyde Lady, to departe in severall parcells, and so not contynue together: and so he desyareth Your Grace to do, yf any suche case shall fortune, as God forbede. And glad he ys to here, that Your Grace hathe so good a hart, and that you have determyned and made your wyll and orderyd youreselfe anenst God, as you have doyne, as His Highness haythe semable doyne: whiche wyll he entendythe shortly to send unto Your Grace, where in Your Grace shall se and perseve the trusty and hartly mynd that he haythe unto you above all men lyvvyng . . . And also he desyrythe Your Grace, that he may here every second day from you, how you doo: for I esewer you, every morneyng assone as he comythe from the Quene, he haskythe, whether I here anything from Your Grace. And this day he apoyntythe to sew his mynd to Mr. Herytage of such thynges as His Hynes wold

have buyldyd here, where of Your Grace send hym word you would be content to doo, by Mr. Herytage. And thus Oure Lord preserve your Grace.

“Wryten at Youre Graces howse at Tytnangre, this Thursday, the 9th day of July, by youre humble and moste bowndyn servant,

(signed) “THOMAS HENNEGE.”

Letter CLVIII. Bell to Wolsey.

Dated from Tittenhanger, 10 July, 1528, contains an account of the King's displeasure with the election of the Abbess of Wilton.

Letter CLIX. Hennege to Wolsey.

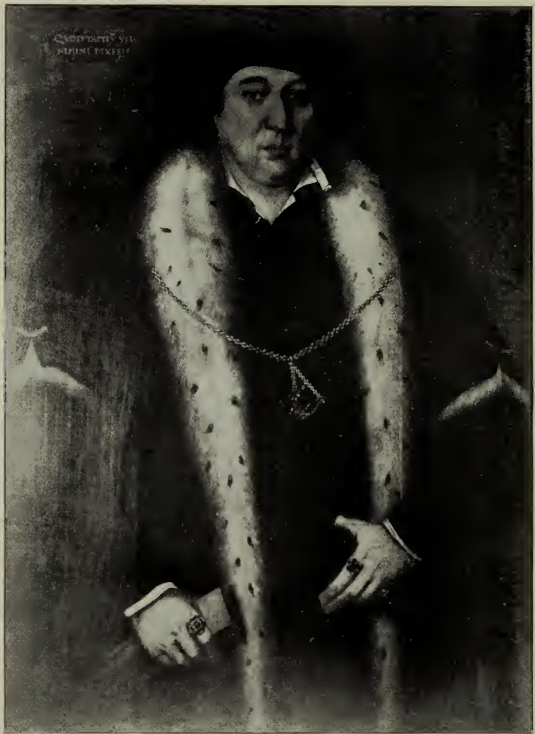
“Tittenhanger, July 11.

“ The Kynge hathe sewyd Mr. Herytage hys plesur for suche boyldynges as he desyreth to have at Tytnangre, and hath made a plate of the same: and very sorry he ys for the deythe of Mr. Redman his mason; as Owre Lorde knowythe, who preserve you.

(signed) “THOMAS HENNEGE.”

The following extract is taken from Cutts's *Turning Points of English Church History*, page 185 :—

“His greatness (*i.e.*, Cranmer's) is said to have sprung out of the following occurrence :—An outbreak of the plague, called the sweating sickness, at Cambridge, in the year 1528, drove him to take refuge with two of his pupils at the house of their father, Mr. Cressy, at Waltham Abbey. This visit was the turning-point in his career. While he was living at Waltham, King Henry passed the night at Tyttenhanger. Two of his train, Gardiner and Fox, were billeted on Mr. Cressy, and at supper the discourse turned on the great topic which was the subject of interest throughout Europe—the King's divorce. Cranmer's conversation made an impression on his new acquaintances. He suggested that all Canonists were agreed that the Pope could not dispense from God's law, but only from Ecclesiastical law; and that marriage with a deceased wife's sister was forbidden by God's law; if, therefore, the Canonists should decide that marriage with a deceased wife's



*Sir Thomas Pope, Founder of Trinity College, Oxford.
By Hans Holbein.*

sister was forbidden by God's law, and if the English Ecclesiastical Courts should decide that Arthur and Catherine were married, then it followed that Henry's marriage was no marriage; and the proper course was not to ask the Pope for a divorce or a dispensation, but to assume that the marriage was originally null and void, and the King a bachelor, at liberty to marry without any dispensation. This view of the matter was soon after reported to Henry, who, in his turn, was so struck with it, that in his blunt way he exclaimed—'This fellow has got the right sow by the ear: bring him here.'"

In the year 1547, the last year of Henry VIII.'s reign, he gave a grant of the Abbey estate of Tyttenhanger, in the parish of Ridge, to Sir Thomas Pope, and by inheritance it has descended to the present Lord Caledon, having remained since that date in his family; the surname only being changed, owing to the estate having been inherited through the female line.

This grant, which was not gratuitous, included Blackhides (Coursers) and also the almoner's tithes, which had been set apart by the Abbot Mentmore. Henry died before the grant was signed and completed, but full confirmation was given to it in the first year of Edward VI., and the deed is now at Tyttenhanger; it also contains the lordship of the manor and right of free warren, and is signed "Edward Somerset" in a very fair and good hand. Wharton says, in his *Life of Sir Thomas Pope*:—

"Tyttenhanger was conveyed to Sir Thomas Pope by Henry VIII., 1547, and confirmed to him by Edward VI., July 24th in the following year. However, it appears that he bought this estate of Queen Mary, June the 16th, 1557, for twenty years' purchase: notwithstanding, in a deed dated 1555, he styles himself of Tyttenhanger, and in the charter of his College, 1554, mentions Tyttenhanger as one of his manors."*

* *Vide Life of Sir T. Pope*, by Wharton, pp. 169, 170.

The rental is said to have been £111 5s. 10d. Sir Thomas Pope, famed as the founder of Trinity College, Oxford, was born at Dedington, in Oxfordshire, in the year 1508. His father, William Pope, of Dedington, was a country gentleman of very moderate means. Thomas Pope, destined for the legal profession, was educated at Banbury Grammar School and Eton College; he thence proceeded, probably, to Gray's Inn. He made a very good use of his education. Fuller says "he was the architect of his own fortune." His proficiency in Chancery law attracted the attention of the great Chancellor, Sir Thomas More (More's ancestral residence was Gobions, in the parish of North Mymms; it has utterly disappeared); to More's friendly patronage Pope probably owed some of his early promotions. Their intercourse was terminated by More's execution in 1535. Early in the morning of the 5th July, Pope was sent to the Tower to announce to his venerable friend the hour appointed for his death. More's reception of the message was characteristic of the man. He said—"Master Pope, I heartily thank you for your good tidings." Pope was unable to control his emotion. More then added—"Quiet yourself, good Master Pope; I trust we shall one day see each other in heaven full merrily."*

In October of the same year, Pope, at the age of 27, was made Clerk of the Briefs in the Star Chamber, and soon afterwards Warden of the Mint, and Keeper of the Jewel House in the Tower of London.

In 1536 he was knighted and appointed a commissioner

* Roper's *Life of More*.

to visit the religious houses. As soon as the Court of Augmentations was established, for receiving the revenues of the dissolved monasteries, he was appointed to the important post of Treasurer. In 1539, in company with Dr. Petre and five other commissioners, he received the surrender of St. Albans Abbey from Abbot Richard Stevenache, December 5th.

Though one of those into whose hands the seal of the opulent Abbey of St. Albans was delivered, the noble and conventual Church was preserved by his interest. In his employment in the Court of Augmentations, which afforded so many temptations to fraud, oppression, and rapacity, he behaved with singular decency, moderation, and honour. Pope's official emoluments must have been very considerable. Being thus furnished with means, he purchased many of the monastic estates then vested in the Crown. How soon he entertained the design of employing a portion of these acquisitions for the endowment of a great college is not known ; so important a scheme would doubtless take a long time in maturing ; it was not realised till 1554. To Pope's uprightness of character there appears to be general testimony. Fuller says—" By all the printed books of that age he appeareth one of a candid carriage, and in this respect stands sole and single by himself."

The statutes of Trinity College were signed at Tyttenhanger, May 1st, 1556. The charter was granted in 1554. The Foundation was for a president, 12 fellows, and 8 scholars. Sir Thomas bestowed on the endowment 35 manors, 13 advowsons, and various tithe appropriations. The manors were in Oxfordshire and

other counties. Tyttenhanger was amongst the grants, but, according to Cussans, it was re-conveyed to the grantor and his heirs on condition of the annual presentation to the College of a fat buck and a hogshead of claret. Warton, in his *Life of Sir Thomas Pope*, gives inventories of church plate, furniture, and books bestowed on the College. The only piece of plate that survives is a fine fifteenth-century silver chalice, gilt, described in Shaw's *Decorated Arts of the Middle Ages* as having belonged to St. Albans Abbey. A fac-simile of it is now in use in the Cathedral Church.

Sir Thomas Pope was High Sheriff of Hertfordshire in 1552 and in 1557, towards the close of Edward's reign.

He retired from Court during the reign of Edward VI., and held no public office, with the exception of High Sheriff. He resided peaceably at his mansion of Tyttenhanger. It is said he was a man full of talent and prudence. Living in an age when great temptations were offered for compliance with frequent changes, yet he remained unbiassed and uncorrupted amidst the general depravity; he never opposed or resisted the new ordinances of religion, but still retained the ancient faith.

On Mary's accession he was made one of the Privy Council, Cofferer to the Household, and frequently employed in State Commissions. During the latter years of this reign he was made keeper or governor to the Princess Elizabeth, to whom he made a kind and gentle custodian.

Princess Elizabeth had for some time been much out

of favour with the Queen. The ancient quarrel between their mothers remained deeply rooted in Mary's malignant heart. Elizabeth's inclination to the Protestant religion still further heightened Mary's aversion, and she had become the public and avowed object of her dislike. The Princess therefore thought it most prudent to leave the Court, and before the beginning of 1554 retired to her house at Ashridge. There she was not long permitted to remain. Being accused of conspiracy, she was conveyed, though weak and ill, to the Tower, and ignominiously conducted through the Traitor's Gate. After this, strictly guarded and in daily fear for her life, she was conveyed by short stages to the palace at Woodstock. Here, after being confined for many months, a partial reconciliation between her and the Queen took place. She was released from the formidable parade of guards and keepers, and was permitted to retire with Sir Thomas Pope to Hatfield House, then a royal palace. This was in 1555. Sir Thomas appears to have resided with her at Hatfield, and behaved to her with tenderness and respect. Although strict orders were given that the Mass alone should be used in the family, yet he connived at many Protestant servants whom she retained about her person. The Princess was suffered to make excursions, partly for pleasure and partly for paying her compliments at Court. Warton mentions how, on February 25th, 1557, the Lady Elizabeth came riding from her house at Hatfield to London, attended with a great "companie" of lords, and nobles, and gentlemen, unto her place called Somerset-place, beyond Strondbridge, to do her duty

to the Queen, and on the 28th she repaired unto her Grace at Whitehall with many lords and ladies. Again, in March she rode to her palace of Shene. In April, the same year, she was escorted from Hatfield to Enfield Chase by a retinue of twelve ladies clothed in white "sattin" on ambling palfries, and twenty yeomen in green, all on horseback, that her Grace might hunt the hart. At entering the chase, or forest, she was met by fifty archers in scarlet boots and yellow caps, armed with gilded bows; one of whom presented her with a silver-headed arrow, winged with peacock's feathers. Sir Thomas Pope had the devising of this show. By way of closing the sport, or rather the ceremony, the Princess was gratified with the privilege of cutting the throat of a buck.

Upon the accession of Queen Elizabeth, who was resident at Hatfield when her sister Mary died, November 17th, 1558, it does not appear that Sir Thomas Pope was continued in the Privy Council. Elizabeth, to prevent an alarm among the partisans of the Catholic communion, had retained thirteen of Mary's Privy Councillors; but her friendship to Sir Thomas seems to have remained unchanged, for he was continued Master of the Ordnance and Armoury. The four last years of Queen Mary's reign, which the Princess Elizabeth passed at Hatfield with Sir Thomas Pope, were by far the most agreeable part of her time during that turbulent period.

Warton states that Sir Thomas Pope lived much at Tyttenhanger, and made improvements in the mansion. "He erected over the vestibule of the great hall a noble

gallery for wind music; he also inserted in the windows of the chapel painted glass, brought the choir from St. Alban's Abbey, when that noble conventual church was preserved from destruction by his intercession with the King." This interesting information was communicated to Warton by Sir Harry Pope Blount, then owner of Tyttenhanger, before 1760 (Sir Harry died in 1757). Neale, writing about the year 1800, says—"Sir Thomas erected in the chapel a new screen of Spanish oak, exquisitely sculptured;" adding—"this very screen now adorns the chapel of Luton Hoo, the seat of the Marquis of Bute, being removed about the year 1620." Whyte succeeded Gardiner as Bishop of Winchester, and was enthroned 1556. He became first visitor of Trinity College. In a letter of Sir Thomas Pope's, dated 1558, he says—"My lord of Wynchester has been sycke with me at Tyttenhanger, but now returns to the corte; he has promysed to give his coat-armur for the grete glas-windowe ther in my hall." In the present dining-room at Tyttenhanger is a portrait of Sir Thomas Pope painted on panel by Hans Holbein. He wears the "gown of black sattin faced with luserne spots," which is mentioned in his will as bequeathed to Mr. Croke, his old master's son. He has two fine sapphire rings on his forefingers, a ruby and sapphire ring on his left hand little finger, and a gold wedding ring on the little finger of his right hand, and hanging round his neck is a gold chain and whistle, described in his will as "the whistle shaped like a dragon, or mermaid, and set in stones," which he "commonly wore at his chain." This he bequeathed to Sir Nicholas Bacon. At the left

corner of the picture is written his chosen motto, by which he had always acted :—

“Quod tacitum velis nemini dixeris.”

He had worked for the good of his generation, and lived an honourable life in times when that quality was rare. When he died, those secrets which he thought it would be better for his country never to know went with him to the grave.

Opposite to Sir Thomas Pope hangs a portrait of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, by Hans Holbein. There is no account existing of how this picture came into the family. It has always been at Tyttenhanger, as far as any record goes. The idea suggests itself that it may possibly have been a gift to Sir Thomas Pope by Thomas Cromwell.

Sir Thomas Pope died January 29th, 1559, on Sexagesima Sunday, at his house in Clerkenwell, in his 50th year.

He was magnificently buried with great solemnities. His body was first carried to the Church of Clerkenwell in London, where it was laid under a hearse or shrine, illuminated with wax tapers, for the space of one week, and on February 7th, with great pomp, the funeral proceeded to the Church of St. Stephen's, Wallbrook. After further ceremonies, the company returned back to his house to a banquet, where they were refreshed with spiced bread and wine. The body was buried after Mass on the following day; they then went to his house for dinner, “being,” as my manuscript says, “a very great dinner, and plenty of all things.”* He was

* *Life of Sir T. Pope*, by Warton.

interred in a vault in which before had been buried his wife Margaret, his daughter Alice, and Anne Pope, his sister-in-law. In 1567, eight years after his death, his body and the body of Dame Margaret were removed to the Chapel of Trinity College, Oxford, where they were again interred on the north side of the altar under a stately tomb, on which are the recumbent figures of Sir Thomas Pope in complete armour, and of his last wife Elizabeth, large as life, in alabaster. In the will of Elizabeth, his last wife, she desires expressly to be buried in a vault or tomb in Trinity College Chapel, Oxford, "wherein lieth the corpse of my late good husband, Sir Thomas Pope." The monument was probably given by Elizabeth in her lifetime. The will of Sir Thomas Pope was written in 1556, with a codicil added in 1558. It is a most carefully-written document, and commences with the desire to be buried at St. Stephen's, Wallbrook, in the tomb in which his wife Margaret and her daughter are interred, and that his funeral be without pomp. This wish was apparently not adhered to. There are numberless bequests to the poor, and many to his friends and relations. To the vicar of Clerkenwell Church 10 shillings, and to the vicar of Ridge, in Hartfordshire, 10 shillings. His executors were Nicholas Bacon and William Blount. To Elizabeth, his wife and executrix, whom he ever found honest, true, faithful, loving, and obedient, he bequeathed the residue of his movable goods, leases, and debts, praying her heartily that she would bestow part of the same among the poor. Great part of his estate was settled upon Trinity College.

His brother, John Pope, who was one of his heirs,

and to whom he granted large estates, lived at Wroxton, in Oxfordshire, in the reign of Edward VI. Sir Thomas had many friends. The two of greatest interest at Tyttenhanger were his executors, William Blount, his wife's brother, and Sir Nicholas Bacon, whom he called "his most true and assured friend." He was Sir Thomas Pope's neighbour at Gorhambury, near St. Albans, where he built, in 1566, a beautiful house, the ruins of which still remain a monument of ancient magnificence and manners. He was likewise solicitor, while Sir Thomas was treasurer, of the first Court of Augmentations. During the reign of Henry VIII., having enjoyed many marks of royal favour, more from virtuous industry than from mean submission, he was made by Queen Elizabeth, 1559, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, and a Privy Councillor. He was father of Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam.

The learned and candid John de Feckenham, the last Abbot of Westminster, and a great friend to the Princess Elizabeth, about the reign of Edward VI. often visited Sir Thomas Pope at Tyttenhanger House, who never suffered him to depart without a present. Once in particular he gave Feckenham, at parting, a purse filled with twelve angels, his picture in enamel, a silver crucifix studded with precious stones, and a large missal richly ornamented, with 36 historical pictures.

There is a tradition that Edward VI. was brought to Tyttenhanger, when an infant, for the sake of the fine air; but no authentic record of this story remains.

Sir Thomas Pope had one brother, John, and three sisters, Alice, Elizabeth, and Julian. Alice was married

to Edward Love, gentleman, of Aynhoe, in Northamptonshire, whose name often occurs in the affairs of Trinity College about the time of its foundation, and who appears to have acted as the founder's receiver in Oxfordshire and other counties. She died 1534, and she and her husband were buried in the Church of Stoke Lyne, near Bicester, in Oxfordshire, with an inscription on a brass plate. Edward and Alice Love had a daughter, Frances, who married William Blount, Esq., executor to Sir Thomas Pope, and their son Thomas inherited Tyttenhanger.

Sir Thomas Pope was three times married. His first wife was Elizabeth Gunston, from whom he was divorced by Richard Gwent, Doctor of Decrees, Archdeacon of London, and principal official in the Court of Canterbury, July 11th, 1536, by the authority of the King and Parliament. His second wife was Margaret Dodmer, widow, to whom he was married in London, July 17th, 1536, by license from Archbishop Cranmer, authorised by Parliament for this purpose. Margaret Dodmer's maiden name was Townsend, and she was the relict of Ralph Dodmer, mercer and sheriff of London, 1524; afterwards knighted, and mayor of London, 1529. She was married to the said Ralph by license from Cardinal Wolsey, dated November 20th, 1527. By this Sir Ralph Dodmer she had two sons, Ralph and John, both living 1554, and two daughters, Ann and Mary; by Sir Thomas Pope, her second husband, she had only one daughter, Alice, born April 16th, 1537, who died very young. With this lady, Margaret, Sir Thomas Pope seems to have lived in the greatest harmony and happiness, for in his will he

mentions with much affection "her womanlie behaviour, trewth, and honestie used towards me," and makes this the sole cause of his kind remembrances and gifts to her son, beseeching his executors and honourable friends to treat all her children as his own, and "to help to sett forward" the children of his late wife, Margaret Dodmer, "which be fryndless." She died January 16, 1538.

At Tyttenhanger there is a small head of a lady rather roughly painted on panel. She wears a close-fitting white cap. It has sometimes been supposed to be the portrait of Margaret, Lady Pope.

The third wife of Sir Thomas Pope was Elizabeth, the daughter of Walter Blount, Esquire, of Blount's Hall, in Staffordshire, and Mary his wife, descended from the illustrious family of Dudley Sutton, of which were the famous John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, and Robert, Earl of Leicester. Elizabeth, when she married Sir Thomas Pope, was relict of Sir Anthony Basford, or Beresford, Esquire, of Bently, in Derbyshire, by whom she had an only son, John. He was sent by the founder to be educated at Trinity College, Oxford. In a letter to the president, the founder desires the lecturers "to tech him and to rede him Erasmus pistells and Tully's pistells, which he shall lerne to translate well." He is a witness to the codicil of Sir Thomas Pope's will. Dr. Ralph Kettel, President of Trinity College, who knew Lady Pope well, bestows high encomiums upon the excellent gifts of her mind and body, her talents, various knowledge, eloquence of language, integrity of morals, piety, and munificence. She survived her husband thirty-five years, and he

delegated to her considerable power over the new Society, to which she was also a benefactress. He says that Sir Thomas was induced to marry her principally on account of her charitable disposition and other excellent qualifications ; and that she heartily concurred with her husband's pious intention of founding a college. They were married by license from Archbishop Cranmer, January 1st, 1540. They had no issue. After the death of Sir Thomas Pope, in January, 1559, she was married for the third time, before or in December following, to Sir Hugh Powlett, of Hinton St. George, in Somersetshire. He was son of Sir Amias Powlett, who re-edified the gate of the Middle Temple in London, to produce a reconciliation with Cardinal Wolsey, whom he had offended, and whose coat of arms he there placed. Sir Hugh, during the reign of Henry VIII., was much in favour with that King. He was invited in 1537, with the principal nobility, to attend the magnificent baptism of Prince Edward. He was knighted for his gallant services against the French, particularly for his behaviour at taking the Brey, at the siege of Boulogne, in the presence of the King. He was treasurer of the King's army at the siege of Boulogne. In consideration of these merits, he was rewarded by Henry VIII. with several grants of manors and lands. By that King he was appointed surveyor of the rents of the dissolved manor of Glastonbury. In 1542 he was sheriff of Devon. In the reign of Edward VI. he was knight-marshal of the army sent against the rebels of Cornwall and Devonshire, governor for life of Jersey and Mount-Orgueil Castle, and he was installed Knight of the

Garter. In Elizabeth's reign he was constituted vice-president of the marches of Wales, and Governor of Havre-de-Grace. He bravely defended Newhaven against the French, and was the chief of the commissioners for the capitulation. He was, in short, besides the character of singular prudence and integrity, one of the most intrepid and experienced officers of his time. By a former wife he was father of Sir Amias Powlett, who had the custody of Mary Queen of Scots. In the British Museum there is a translation of a French romance into English, entitled *L'Histoire de la Duchesse de Savoye. Par Hugues le fils de Mons. Aime Powlett.* It is probably one of his juvenile exercises in the French language. In the reign of Elizabeth he was a Privy Councillor and an eminent statesman. Sir Hugh died in 1571, without issue by his last lady, who survived him till 1593. On the panelled ceiling of the north transept of St. Albans, now destroyed, were the arms of Powlett—viz., *sa.*, three swords in pile, points downwards; *arg.*, pommelled and hilted *or.* Lady Pope (Dame Elizabeth Powlett) engaged her husband, Sir Hugh Powlett, to join with her in protecting the interests of Trinity College. "In 1564 she placed a new pair of organs, with a picture of the passion of Saint Sebastian, in the chapel of Tyttenhanger House." Warton says—"This was communicated by the late Sir Harry Pope Blount from some family papers." She chiefly lived at Tyttenhanger and Clerkenwell. There are three of her letters to Trinity College, the first of which is dated "Tyttenhanger, Sept. 23rd, 1559;" the second, "Tyttenhanger, Sept. 5, 1570;" the third, "Clerken-

well, June 12th, 1590." In the year 1578, she was visited at Tyttenhanger by Queen Elizabeth in a royal progress.* At length this pious and respectable lady, having lived to a very great age, died October 27th, 1593, at Tyttenhanger. When her body was carried from thence, to be buried at Oxford, five pounds in money, and large provisions of meat and drink, were distributed to the poor at the gate of Tyttenhanger House.

She bequeathed "£11. 5. 0 to several prisons. To each prisoner at Oxford a stone of beef. Forty shillings to the poorest and most diseased patients of St. Bartholomew's Hospital."

Amongst other bequests—"To the Lord Treasurer Burleigh, a ring of gold, garnished with a diamond, which was some time the ring of the Lord Keeper, Sir Nicholas Bacon. To the Earl of Ormonde, her black ambling horse. To Lady Stafford, Lady of the Queen's Privy Chamber, a candlestick of silver. To her sister, Lady Sydenham, a nest of silver bowls, two trencher salts of silver, and her bed, with all its rich furniture, of cloth of stamel colour."

The following letter of Sir Hugh Powlett's to Cecil is taken from the Public Record Office, *Domestic State Papers* A.D. 1547-1580, vol. xlvi., 10 Elizabeth:—

"Sir William Cecil, Lord Burleigh.

"dated Tyttenhanger, 19 June, 1568.

"It may please you to be advertysed, that there are of my symple provysion tenne lodes of stones caryed and upon caryage from Langley to your house at Tyballs besides Walton; being partly ashamed that I can not furnish you with a greater nomber of cartes.

* *Vide* Strype, Blomefield, and *Life of W. Lilly*.

Yet are these few moo by the one half than I can make of my tenants here, and much adoo to get any others by the ill furniture of the cuntrye in ploughes; and my lytell acqueyntance emongest the people; desyring you to accept my pore good wyll for the service that I should have donne you in this behalfe.

“And touching the matter in hande for the pretended traffique in the Isles of Jersey and Guernsey, lyke as it hath pleased you and those my Lordes of the Quene’s Majesty’s Counsell to understande therein the opynions of her Hynes’ Attorney and Sollycitor, with other associat unto them; whiche certyficat I take to be retourned unto you. So it may be your pleasure to wryte as woll unto some men of knowledge and notablest merchaunts of the Sherestowns and portes westward, as to some of the choysest parsons of the said Isles for certyficat of their opinions hereupon, in whiche behalf for your more spedy reducyng to memorye of some of the chefst and metest men of all those partes (as yt ys thought) to travayle herein. Mr. John Chamberlayne and Mr. Alexander Colles have to delyver unto you a cedula of soundry men’s names collected for that purpose, whom you may accordingly appoynt with them hereunto, or alter the same into otheres at your pleasures. And so having declared as myche any waye as I can saie herein, I have referred the farther prosecuting of the cause, (as you and otheres my Lordes of the Counsell shall appoynt,) unto the said John Chamberlayne and Alexander Colles, who wyll attend your pleasures upon the same.

“Cessing therefore on my parte to troble you with any farther discours in this behalf, I wyshe you with good harte and most preworthy well to fare.

“From my pore howse of Tytenhanger, in Harfordshire, the XIX of June, 1568.

“Yours to coffmand,

(signed) “HUGH POULET.”

A postscript follows this letter relating to matters in Ireland.

The manor house of Theobalds, or Tyballs, was rebuilt by William Cecil Lord Burleigh about 1565. The stones mentioned in this letter were probably required for building some addition to the mansion.

There is a good portrait of Lady Pope (afterwards Lady Powlett) at Tyttenhanger. It is an oval picture of a middle-aged lady, with a most pleasant expression. She wears a white widow's cap, over which is a black hood tied under her chin, the point of which rests upon her forehead. She has on a white collar, and round her shoulders a black satin mantle fastened with an ornamental clasp. Only the right hand is shown, with a small ring on the little finger. Sir Thomas Pope having died without children, the name and family were continued by his brother John, who settled at Wroxton. The poet, Alexander Pope, was related to this family.

Sir Thomas Pope settled the estate of Tyttenhanger upon Elizabeth, his lady, for life, and, after her death, upon Thomas Blount, the eldest son of William Blount, Esq., of Osberston, her brother, who died the year before her, and whose wife was Frances, daughter of Edward Love, Esq., of Aynhoe, in Northamptonshire, and Alice, the sister of Sir Thomas Pope, so that Thomas Blount was great-nephew of Sir Thomas Pope, and nephew to Lady Pope. Upon his succession to this estate he added the name of Pope to that of Blount.

The ancestor of this family was Le Blount, Lord of Guisnes, in Normandy, whose sons, Robert and William Le Blount, both entered England with William the Conqueror. William was one of the captains in that expedition, and quartered with other Norman knights on the monks of Ely. Robert was created by the Conqueror Baron of Ixworth, in Suffolk, in which county he received a grant of thirteen lordships. Gilbert, his son, founded an Augustine priory at Ixworth, in the reign of William

Rufus, which he endowed with fourteen knights' fees. One of Gilbert's descendants was killed at the battle of Lewes, in the reign of Henry III., where he was standard-bearer to Mountford, Earl of Leicester. In the progress of its descent, this family numbers many persons of singular eminence and high station, and is, besides, nobly connected by marriage.

During the reign of Edward I., and also in the reign of Edward III., the name "Hugh de Blund" is on the list of High Sheriffs for Hertfordshire.

*Walter Blount, Esq., the second son of John Blount and Ellen Hall, lived at Blount's Hall, and married Margaret, daughter of John Sutton, Esq., of Dudley Sutton, of which family were John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, and Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. By this marriage he acquired the estate of Osbaston in Leicestershire. They had two sons, William and Walter, and four daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, Ann, and Ellen.

1. William Blount, the eldest, lived at Osbaston, married Frances Love. He died in 1592, and was buried at Ridge.

2. Walter was admitted a Scholar of Trinity College, Oxford, upon the nomination of the Founder, on January 9th, 1556, aged 18, and left it about Michaelmas, 1558.

1. Elizabeth, married Sir Thomas Pope.
2. Mary, married Sir George Sydenham, of Combe Sydenham.
3. Ellen, supposed to have married Mr. Goodwin.
4. Ann, died unmarried.

* *Vide* Genealogical History of the Croke Family.

William Blount, of Osbaston, by his wife, Frances Love, had four sons—

1. Thomas, afterwards Sir Thomas Pope Blount.
2. Richard.
3. George, who married Martha, the daughter of Richard Thurville, of Thurleston.
4. Walter.

*Richard Blount, the second son, was born about the year 1563, and became an eminent member of the Society of Jesus. He was initiated in polite learning at Oxford, where he was admitted a Gentleman-Commoner of Trinity College, January 31st, 1579, and left, February 28th, 1581. From Oxford he went to Rome, to pursue his studies in philosophy and theology. When his education was completed, he accompanied Father Robert Parsons into Spain, to visit the seminaries which he had lately established at Seville and Valladolid. At Seville he exhibited a specimen of his learning in some disputations which were held before the Cardinal, and greatly edified the students by his precepts, and his example of modesty and other virtues. He continued here till the English sent a fleet against Cadiz in 1596, when, in the dress of a sailor, he went to England on board a merchant-ship with some other priests. Not long afterwards he was admitted into the Society of Jesuits. As the age of profession is thirty-three years, this must have been about the year 1598. It was the destination of Father Blount to be a labourer in the spiritual harvest of his native country. The laws were severe against persons of his profession, and they were executed with

* *Vide* Genealogical History of the Croke Family.

great vigilance. It was high treason for Jesuits and priests to be found in England ; it was felony to harbour them, and not to discover them subjected the party to fine and imprisonment. The students of the foreign seminaries, who were designed for the English mission, were educated for martyrdom. Notwithstanding the activity of the Government, great numbers were annually sent over. Father Blount resided for some years in Sussex, and during this time he was twice in imminent danger of being apprehended. The first time, a justice of the peace came with his officers early in the morning to the house where he was concealed. The master of the house was seized and sent off to London, the mistress was conveyed to the justice's house, and the servants were committed to prison, one maid only being left to take care of the children. The magistrate kept possession of the house for five days, making repeated searches. During all this time Father Blount and a servant were concealed in a hiding-place. When their provisions were consumed, the servant came out, and delivered himself up, pretending to be the priest of whom they had received information, and pointing out another place as that in which he had been concealed, upon which the magistrate went away. Thus, after some danger of starving, and the uneasiness of sitting in one position for so long a time, he escaped from his persecutors. The second time, his trial was still severer. On a winter's night near Christmas, upon an information laid by a country servant, three justices and their attendants suddenly entered the courtyard. Awakened by the noise, Father Blount started out of bed, and in

his under-garments only, with another person, hid himself in the hole of a thick stone wall, taking with him one loaf and a little wine. The master was absent, and they shut up the mistress, with her children, in one of the rooms. Every part of the house was searched, every door broken open, and every suspicious place sounded, and they kept possession for ten days. On the last evening, having discovered by the sound that there was a hollow place in the wall, they battered it so hard as to loosen the stones, and the concealed inhabitants were obliged to support them with their shoulders. A heavy rain compelled the magistrates and their attendants to retire into the house, and, whilst they were refreshing themselves, Father Blount made his escape from the hiding-place. But he had still dangers to encounter. The house and garden were surrounded by a wall and a moat. With much difficulty he scaled the wall, and swam over the moat, which was eighty feet wide, and clogged with broken ice. His companion, not being able to swim, was left behind, and made his escape by a stratagem. He ran into the hall, awoke the soldiers, and alarmed them with a fictitious story that some thieves were stealing their horses. They started up, opened the gates, and ran with lights to the stables ; of which he took advantage and escaped. Father Blount, whose legs and feet were much torn and bruised, procured the dress of a countryman at a neighbouring house, continued his journey along the main road, which was deep in mud, and reached the house of another Catholic friend, where he lay sick for three months, and then went to London for further medical advice. He

felt the consequences of the sufferings he underwent upon this occasion all the rest of his life. In 1619, England, which had only been styled a mission in the constitution of the order of Jesuits, was erected into a Vice-Province, and Father Blount was appointed the first Superior. Flanders as well as England was comprehended. Upon his appointment, he divided England into regions, and assigned Moderators under each. By this measure the Fathers in every place had a Superior near them to consult, and cases of difficulty were reserved for the Vice-Provincial. It facilitated likewise the performance of the stated exercises, the renewal of their vows, and other matters of discipline. Though he principally resided in London, and often visited different parts of the country in the performance of his office, his great caution and vigilance enabled him to avoid discovery and seizure. He assumed different characters, and never left or returned to his house but under the veil of darkness; and he avoided all open connection with known Catholics. James I. and Charles honoured him with their favour on account of his character for prudence and integrity. He loved to be in the society of great men, from whom he obtained the best information, and could communicate what he wished to be known through a larger circle. Yet he avoided persons in the Government, who might ask of him what he could neither refuse with safety or grant with honesty.

Under Father Blount the Society flourished greatly. In 1636, Father Blount, being then more than 70 years of age, resigned his arduous office. He then applied his mind to the conversion of his relations from the

errors of heresy. Amongst his family, he and one sister only had embraced the Catholic faith. He wished to convert his eldest brother, Sir Thomas Pope Blount, and his children; but no importunities could prevail upon Sir Thomas to listen to such conversations. Disappointed, therefore, Father Blount lived retired, and died two years after the resignation of his office, and was buried at the Capuchins, then dwelling in London, by permission of the Queen.

Thomas, the eldest son, inherited Tyttenhanger by the will of his great uncle, Sir Thomas Pope. He settled at Tyttenhanger about 1593. He prefixed Pope to the name of Blount. He was matriculated of Trinity College in 1574, being then 18. "He was Sheriff of Hartfordshire in 1598, and was knighted by James I. on May 7th, at the commencement of his reign, at Theobald's, in His Majesty's journey from Scotland in 1602. He was offered a baronetcy, which he refused, and was appointed and made a deputy-lieutenant of Hartfordshire." He married Frances, daughter of Sir Thomas Pigot, Knight, of Holt, and by her, who died in 1616, and was buried at Ridge, he had four sons—

1. Thomas Pope, his successor.
2. Charles, born 1600, died 1602, and was buried at Ridge.
3. Henry.
4. Charles, born 1604, died 1606, and was buried at Ridge.

His wealth was great. He had possessions in the counties of Hertford, Middlesex, Bedford, Leicester, Stafford, and Derby. He died at a great age, and was

buried at Ridge. There is a black marble tablet at Ridge over the spot where the Blounts lie, with coats of arms at each corner, and this inscription—

“ Here lye the bodies of Wylliam Blount
The father Esq. and S^r Thomas Pope Blount
Knight his sonne with the Ladie Frances
Blount his wyfe who had issue fower sonnes
S^r Thomas Pope Blount Knight Charles
Henrie and Charles Blount.
We Prayse God for all His Mercies.
1633.”

Thomas Pope Blount, the eldest son, succeeded. He was born in 1598-9, and married a widow, Margaret Pate, and died without issue, August 7th, 1654. He was buried at Ridge, in the family vault at the north side of the chancel, and was succeeded by his brother Henry. In 1884, when the chancel was restored by Jane, Lady Caledon, the vault was found to be out of repair. The remains of the Blounts were laid in a new vault a few yards from the wall on the same side, and the ancient marble tablet (which had been within the altar rails) was placed over them.

Sir Henry Blount, of Blount's Hall, who was born at Tyttenhanger, December 15th, 1602, eldest surviving son of Sir Thomas Pope Blount and Frances Pigot, now became possessor of Tyttenhanger. He was educated at the free school of St. Albans, and entered a Gentleman Commoner of Trinity College before he was 14. He attracted the attention of the Society more from his great gifts and personal accomplishments than from his family connections and his near relation to the Founder. After taking his first degree, he removed to Gray's Inn



Sir Henry Blount, "The Traveller," from a miniature.

and studied municipal law. He then made a tour through Italy, France, and Spain. In 1634 he embarked at Venice for Constantinople. He also visited Turkey, which afforded a noble scene for observation in religion, policy, and manners. The Turkish army was then marching against Poland, and their military discipline came under his observation. He travelled through the greater part of Europe, and in 1636 published a book of his travels. A curious manuscript book written by him, and called "Sir Henry Blount's Commonplace Book," is in the Tyttenhanger Library. It contains extracts from different authors, and remarks and notes by himself, all carefully arranged by his own hand.

Extracts from Sir Henry's Commonplace Book.

"ON WISDOM.

"The Wisdom of Man is but foolishness unto God, says the Apostle; what more common than to see Men entrapped in their own Wisdom, and as it were by their own craft and subtilty to work out their own Ruine and Destruction. Some Men are apt to run before Providence: It is the fault of most Wise men to look at things at too great a distance, and therefore it is that many times things seem to them what really they are not. Hence Montaign observes—That there is nothing so ridiculous as for a Wise man to play the Fool; And what can be a greater folly than for a Man through the Extremity of Wisdom to run into the greatest Folly.

"S^R HENRY BLOUNT."

"Of all Wind Instruments, that of Fame ought most to be valued."

"Though Kings are called Gods on Earth, yet they are but Gods of Earth, and therefore they must die like Men."

"King Charles the 1st us'd to say—That the King and Parliament are like the Twins of Hippocrates, which must laugh and cry, live and Dye together."

“It was the saying of S^r Henry Blount that of all parts of the Creation, the basest was Man, and that the Worst of Men was the English Man, and the worst of the English Men was the Clergy-man.”

King Charles I., who was a patron of clever men, made him one of his Gentlemen Pensioners. The King conferred upon him the honour of knighthood on March 21st, 1639. Sir Henry Blount when he was young was not proof against the allurements of pleasure. In his gay day he dined most commonly at the Heycock's Ordinary, near Pallsgrave, head tavern in the Strand, which was much frequented by Parliament men and gallants. Here it was that he won a jocose wager of Colonel Betrige, one of the most fashionable men about the town, in confirmation of his strange notion that the fair sex loved money more than beauty in their admirers. At those convivial parties he excelled in that species of humour now called hoaxing, but then styled shamming.* He told once, in company, that at an inn in St. Albans the innkeeper had made a hogs' trough of a freestone coffin, but the pigs after that grew lean, dancing and skipping, and would run up on the tops of the houses like goats. The young gentlemen who heard him tell this sham so gravely rode the next day to St. Albans to enquire. Coming there, nobody had heard of any such thing—'twas altogether false. The next night, as soon as they alighted, they came to the Rainbow coffee-house, and found Sir Henry, and told him they wondered he was not ashamed to tell such stories. “Why, gentlemen,”

* *Vide* Genealogical History of the Croke Family.

said he, "have you been there to make enquiry?" "Yea," said they. "Why, truly, gentlemen," said Sir Henry, "I heard you tell strange things that I knew to be false. I would not have gone over the threshold of the door to have found you in a lie." At which all the company laughed at the two young gentlemen. At the age of 40 he became more serious, and drank nothing but water or coffee. This latter liquor was just introduced into this country. The first coffee-house in London was in St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill. Sir Henry had acquired a taste for coffee during his Turkish travels. In the civil war he attended the King as one of his Gentlemen Pensioners at York, and in the battle of Edgehill, where he had the care of the Royal children, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York, and retired with them towards the end of the battle, not without imminent danger of their being taken in an ambush by the way. He was afterwards with the King at Oxford, but left him and retired to London. Upon his arrival there, he walked into Westminter Hall with his sword by his side, to the astonishment of the Parliamentarians, who stared upon him as a cavalier, knowing that he had been with the King. Upon which he was called before the House of Commons, and questioned for his adherence to his Majesty; but remonstrating to them that he did no more than what his place required, he was acquitted. When the King's cause became desperate, he joined the reigning party, and was esteemed by them. He was appointed in 1651 one of the committee of 21 persons to consult about the reformation of the law. He was active against the payment of tithes,

and endeavoured to reduce the emoluments of ministers to one hundred pounds a-year. He inveighed much against the University. Young men were too dissipated there, and acquired learning not fit to qualify them for the affairs of the world. In his manuscript book is an interesting account of the young men of these days, and their manners and customs on leaving College to settle down on their estates as country squires; later in life to become High Sheriffs or even members of Parliament, yet uneducated and empty-headed. The clergy also did not escape his censure, although he appears to have been a staunch Churchman and Protestant, and quotes from other authors how "the Essence and Being of Christianity is Practice." He is also concerned about the boldness and confidence of the women, while the men have fallen to the effeminacy of women. Cosmetics must have been in fashion, for he mentions on his "Page concerning Women" . . . "The little Adulteries of Art; she may buy Beauty, and yet can never make it her own; may paint, yet never be fair. 'Tis like Enameling a Mud Wall, the Coursness of the Ground will spoil the Varnish."

In 1654 he sat in the Upper Bench in Westminster Hall, with Lord Chief-Justice Rolles, on the commission for the trial of Don Pantaleon Sa, the Portuguese Ambassador's brother, for murder; an act of justice which brought great credit to Cromwell's Government.

Sir Henry was known to be friendly to the Royal cause, and only joined the Republican party when all hopes of preserving the Monarchy were extinct. At the Restoration he was received into the Royal favour,

and was appointed High Sheriff of Herts. After this he lived the life of a country gentleman. There is a silver token at Tyttenhanger with the head of Charles I. on one side and a representation of the Parliament on the other. These tokens were presented at the time of the Restoration to his friends by the King as an acknowledgment for money given on behalf of the Royal cause. Judging by the three portraits at Tyttenhanger, Sir Henry had a thoughtful face, with strongly-marked features, and was slightly underjawed. In two of these portraits he wears a long brown wig, parted down the centre of his head, and curled on each side of his face. In one of these he is represented with his right hand resting on a globe of the world. The third portrait of him is without a wig, and showing his own dark hair. The motto, "*Radicem Pete*," is written on this picture. His wife, of whom there is a portrait, is dressed in brown brocade, a necklace of pearls is round her throat, and she has long pearl drop earrings. She wears ringlets, and a small love-lock on her forehead. In 1654, when Sir Henry inherited Tyttenhanger, he pulled down the ancient magnificent fabric and built the present house, the front of which was from a plan of Inigo Jones. As has already been told, the materials, wainscot, &c., of the ancient mansion of the abbots were used for the new building. It is a handsome square four-storied house of red brick, with a steep tiled roof and dormer windows, and clock tower in the centre.

The entrance was by the south front. A gate off the Hatfield lane, on the south side of the pond near Kent's lodge, led to a road which went across the meadow and

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up to a shrubbery. Traces of it and the old trees in the front hayfield mark the spot. The road here divided, forming a square, enclosing the shrubbery. We believe there was also another approach leading to Colney St. Peter's through Lobel lane. Immediately in front of the south hall-door was an oval plot of grass with a gravel sweep or path, and opposite the hall-door were large iron gates surmounted on either side by a stone lion, each supporting a Blount shield. These gates were probably the distance of the present fountain flower-bed from the house; for when the fountain was being made (which proved a failure, and is now a flower-bed) in more recent years by Catherine Freman, Lady Caledon, under it the present gardener remembers finding two stone steps, which appear to have led down through these gates on to an open grass paddock, at the end of which was a magnificent grass avenue, with trees on each side, leading straight to the London road. The effect of this must have been fine.

There were out-buildings on the east side, and a kitchen garden, which is said to have been that of the abbots, near the old well-house, the well with the famous water, which was one of the chief inducements for the abbots to settle here. The present well-house must have been built by the Blounts, but was restored and put into good order by Jane, Lady Caledon.

What is now a lawn-tennis ground, facing west, was a large shrubbery and pleasure-ground extending from the kitchen garden by the well to the glade by the rookery, and here was a formal flower-garden. This was the style of place to which Catherine Freman, Lady Caledon,

used to come as a child, and she frequently described it and the games she had with her sisters in those grounds. The maiden blush rose still growing on the west wall of the house was there in those days, and Lady Stuart always showed the scar on her finger where it was torn by a thorn, for she had started round so suddenly to hear the news of the battle of Waterloo which a messenger from London had brought to her father, and at that moment she happened to be leaning out of the drawing-room window to gather the roses. The drawing-rooms in those times were used as a study by Lord Hardwicke, and called the offices. The tapestry-room on the first floor was the drawing-room.

It had been intended by Catherine, Lady Caledon, when making the fountain, that the overflow should be carried into a well which is opposite the abbots' beer-cellar door. The workmen found a spring there, and seven or eight feet beneath the ground four brick walls, forming four rooms. In the days of the Blounts and later there were out-buildings extending beyond the well-house to the south; there are also indications of brick foundations across the terrace and grass mound. This may have been the wall of the Blounts' garden, or even older remains.

In the interior of Tyttenhanger are two oak stair-cases, the principal one being exceedingly richly carved. They both lead to a curious corridor under the roof, stretching along the whole front from end to end. This was probably a dormitory. Cut with a diamond in one of the panes of the lattice window which faces east were the following names:—"Judith Wase, 1656;"

"Anne Bagnall, 1656." The glass was broken only recently. This corridor has bedrooms off it, and they have in the wall long low cupboards almost like passages. There used to be a music-room on the second floor; but when Lady Hardwicke came to reside permanently here, part of the music-room was partitioned off into bedrooms, leaving only a narrow passage. Lady Stuart could recollect that the place where the orchestra stood was ornamented with gilt leather. On this floor is Sir Henry Blount's private study, and over the door is written "*Hoc age.*" This motto was placed there by Sir Henry, and the room always bears that name. His coat of arms is on a panel near the window, still clear and well preserved. The story is that Sir Henry yet haunts this room; that the rustling of his satin dressing-gown is heard as he passes down the passage (in his day the music-room) and into his private room to study; at other times he has been distinctly felt coming out of "*Hoc age.*"

After living at Tyttenhanger for over 20 years, he died in 1682, and was buried at Ridge. He had married, in 1647, Hester, daughter of Christopher Wase, Esq., and widow of Sir William Mainwaring. She died in 1678, and was buried at Ridge. Her daughter, Lady Busby, by Sir William Mainwaring, is also buried there. An ornamental memorial tablet of white marble or alabaster is in the chancel, with this inscription:—

"Here lyes ye Lady Busby wife to Sr John Busby of Addington in y^e county of Bucks Daughter to y^e Lady Blunt by her first husband Sr William Mainwaring who was slaine in y^e defence of Chester for y^e King She died y^e 28: day of December 1661 in

y^e 19 yeare of her age in childbed of her second child who survives to succeed her in thos admired perfections which made her memory deare to all who knew her."

Sir Henry Blount had issue by Hester Wase seven sons and one daughter—

1. Sir Thomas Pope Blount, who succeeded.
2. Henry, born 1650, died 1651.
3. Charles, born 1654, died 1693, and was buried at Ridge.
4. Christopher, born 1655, died 1657, and was buried at Ridge.
5. Henry, born 165—, died 1657, and was buried at Ridge.
6. A son.
7. Ulysses, born 1664, married Hester, eldest daughter of Sir John Hewett, of Waresley, who died 1694, and was buried at Ridge.

1. Frances, born 1648, married, in 1666, Sir Thomas Tyrell, father of Sir Henry Tyrell. She died 1699, and was buried at Thornton.

There are two pictures at Tyttenhanger, a boy and girl. One is of Sir Thomas Pope Blount, [by Cornelius Jansen]; the other is of Frances Blount, afterwards Lady Tyrell. It is in precisely the same style as the painting of her brother; so we conclude it is by the same artist, who died in 1665.

Sir Thomas Pope Blount, eldest son of Sir Henry Blount, the traveller, was born at Upper Holloway, in Middlesex, Sept. 12th, 1649. The advantage of an education under the instructions of his father was not lost upon him. For his general merits he was created

Small Man
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a baronet by Charles II. in 1679 during his father's lifetime. In the two last Parliaments of Charles II., he was one of the members for the borough of St. Albans, and was knight of the shire for Hertfordshire the remaining part of his life ; in the Convention Parliament of 1688, he and Sir C. Cæsar were conjointly members for the borough ; and in the Parliaments that were summoned in 1689, in the reign of William and Mary, he and Ralph Freman sat for the county (and he continued to be member for the county until his death). During the last three years he was appointed by the House of Commons as one of the commissioners of the public accounts. He was a lover of rational liberty, and was steady to the party by which the Revolution was effected, without any violence or rancour against those of opposite sentiments. He married Jane, the only daughter of Sir Henry Cæsar, or Adelmare, knight of Benington Place, in Hertfordshire, and died at Tyttenhanger, June 30th, 1697, in his 48th year, and was buried at Ridge. By his lady, who died at Kensington Gravel Pits on July 14th, 1726, and was buried at Ridge, he had five sons and nine daughters, whose names are given later. "His shield of arms may be seen in the Presbytery of St. Albans Abbey, among those of the contributors to the reparation of the structure effected in 1683. He was one of the trustees for the fund. The bearings are—*'Barry nebule or and sab.'*"

It was during the lifetime of Sir Thomas, in 1684, that the private chapel (which is on the second story of Tyttenhanger House) was consecrated by Ralph Lord Bishop of Exeter. The fittings are ancient, with the

exception of a modern parquet floor. The coloured glass is the original. There is also the old communion plate. The coats of arms on the staircase, in coloured glass of the same style as that in the chapel, are modern.

As the Cæsars intermarried with both the Blounts and Fremans, we have taken an account of their origin from Salmon's *History of Hertfordshire*, written in 1728. He says—"At Benington are the Manuscripts of Sir Julius Cæsar, bound up in several volumes. On the last page of one, this, written with his own Hand—

'Julius Adelmarius filius
Cæsaris Adelmarii, qui semper
Durante vitâ cognitus publice
Et apellatus Cæsar, per illustriss-
imas Reginas Mariam et
Elizabetham, transmisit eandem
Apellationem, idemque nomen ad
Posteritatem suam, quæ tamen
Posteritas Adelmarii nomen
Non dereliquit ; cum illud ab
Illustri Comite Genuæ in
Italia, Dñō Admirallio
Galliæ tempore Caroli M.
Imperatoris Germaniæ in
Continua stirpe Masculinâ
Ad illam descenderitt ; idque jure
Hæreditario.
Jul. Adelmarius, alias Cæsar.
Ætatis suæ an. 77. 1634.'

"Under his father's Picture is this—

'Cæsar Adelmar, lineally
Descended from Adelmar
Count of Genoa, and Admiral
Of France, A.D. 806, in the
Reign of Charles the Great.
His Mother was Daughter

To the Duke de Cesarini, from
Whom he had the Name of Cæsar,
Which Name Mary Queen of
England ordered to be
Continued to his Posterity.'

"On Sir Julius Cæsar's Picture—

'Sir Julius Adelmar
Cæsar,
Judge of the Admiralty,
Master of St. Katharine's,
Master of Requests,
Chancellor and Under Treasurer
Of the Exchequer,
Master of the Rolls,
One of the most Hon^{ble} Privy-
Council, and Custos Rotulorum
Of the County of Hertford,
Son of Cæsar Adelmar.'

"Another—

'Sir Charles
Adelmar Cæsar,
Master of the Rolls,
Son of Sir Julius.'

"Another—

'Sir Henry Adelmar Cæsar,
Twice Knight of the Shire
for the County of Hertford,
Son of Sir Charles.'

"Another—

'Sir Charles Adelmar Cæsar,
Twice Knight of the Shire for
the County of Hertford,
Son of Sir Henry.'

"Another of

'Charles Adelmar Cæsar,
Treasurer of the Navy,
Son of Sir Charles,

Knight of the Shire
for the County of Hertford.'

"In the church of St. Peter, at Benington, is a monument 'for Sir Charles Cæsar Knight, Master of the Rolls, son of the Right Hon^{ble} Sir Julius Cæsar, Privy Councillor to King James and King Charles.

He died 1643.'"

In the history of *Hertfordshire during the Great Civil War*, by Alfred Kingston, referring to the year 1638, he describes the burdens and grievances that had been growing in volume for some time before the actual crisis, and goes on to say—"Besides Ship-money, there was another grievance to the country in 'coat and conduct money'—the cost of providing the soldiers with coats and conducting them to the rendez-vous. The Deputy Lieutenants of Herts questioned its legality, and five of them were summoned to London to answer for their remissness. In fact, neither this nor Ship-money came in very readily from the counties, and the King, to meet his immediate needs, put up to auction the office of Master of the Rolls, and the highest bidder was Sir Charles Cæsar, of Benington, Herts, who secured the prize for £15,000."

The principal work of Sir Thomas Pope Blount was the *Censura Celebriorum Authorum*, a large folio volume in Latin, which is a collection of the judgments of learned men upon the writings of the principal authors who have appeared in all ages. Another critical work was entitled *De Re Poetica*; or, *Remarks upon Poetry*. He appears to have formed his styles upon the models of Bacon and Bishop Taylor, and, amongst other works, wrote essays upon subjects of science and morality.

Speaking of Christianity, he styles it "a blessed religion." "Of all the virtues and dignities of the mind," he says, "goodness of nature is the greatest, being the very character of the Deity, and therefore all the acts of our Saviour, whilst He conversed on earth amongst men, were purely the effects of, and emanations from, His tenderness and good nature." Again—"The Christian religion is a plain, simple, easy thing, and Christ commends His yoke to us by the easiness of it."

The third writer of this family was his brother, Charles Blount, the second surviving son of Sir Henry, born at his grandfather's seat at Upper Holloway, in Middlesex, April 27th, 1654. When only 18, on December 3rd, 1672, he was married at Westminster Abbey to Eleanor, fourth daughter of Sir Timothy Tyrell, of Shotover, in Oxfordshire, and his father then settled upon him the estate of Blount's Hall, in Staffordshire. It was said of him—"Nature gave him parts capable of noble sciences, and his industrious studies bore a proportion to his capacity. He was a generous friend, an indulgent father, and a kind master. His temper was open and free, his conversation pleasant, his reflexions just and modest, his repartees close, not scurrilous. He was an enemy to dissimulation, and never feared his own thoughts. He was a lover of the liberty of his country; in his habits he was temperate, eating out of necessity rather than pleasure. His usual liquor was water, and he never drank any other but to prevent himself being the spy and wonder of the company. He was fond of hunting, and was some times master of a pack of hounds." Unfortunately, he was prejudiced against the

Scriptures and Christian religion, and became a professed deist. Of the glory, honour, and adoration of God he was a most zealous asserter. He belonged to a school of deism which had been brought into England by Spinoza and other foreign philosophers. It continued by a succession through Toland, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Collins, Woolston, Tindal, Morgan, Chubb, Lord Bolingbroke, Hume, and Douglas, down to Gibbon. His works were dangerous, being composed with ability and extensive learning. His first publication, entitled *Anima Mundi*, appeared in 1679. Later he published several other books. He was also author of some letters under the name of "Philander," in the *Post Boy Robbed*. It appears that Charles Blount was only weak on the side of religion. He was a great favourite with his father. In his politics he supported the Revolution. In the reign of Charles II. he published a political piece, entitled "An appeal to the country from the city, for the preservation of his Majesty's person, liberty, property, and the Protestant religion." This was strongly written, and was a popular work upon the Popish plot and against the danger of a Popish successor. He wrote "A dialogue between King William and King James on the banks of the Boyne the day before the battle."

His lady died at Rolleston, in Staffordshire, in 1689, and after her decease he conceived a violent passion for her sister, Mrs. Hoby, then a rich widow, a lady of great beauty and accomplishments. She was not insensible to his attachment, but had scruples about marrying her late sister's husband. He appealed to the Archbishop of

Canterbury, and was informed that such a match was contrary to law. The lady then positively refused him. He tried to persuade her to an illicit marriage, and she again refused her consent ; and Mr. Blount, in a fit of despair, shot himself through the head. He lived for five days, during which time he was nursed by the lady with the most sympathetic tenderness. This event took place in August, 1693, in Catherine Street, Strand. He was buried at Ridge.

Charles Blount, by his wife, Eleanor Tyrell, had three sons and three daughters—

1. Henry Blount, of Blount's Hall, born in the Strand, 1675, who was a Lieut.-Col. in the Foot Guards, and was killed at the head of the advanced guard in the battle of Schellenburg, in Germany, 1704. He was unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother.

2. Charles, born 1681, married Sarah, daughter of — Pearson, Esq. ; died without issue at Blount's Hall in 1729.

3. Thomas Pope, born 1683, was lost at sea, 1702 ; he was unmarried.

1. Hester, born 1673, married her cousin-german, Harry Tyrell, afterwards Sir H. Tyrell, Bart., of Thornton, and inherited Blount's Hall on the death of her brother Charles.

2. Eleanor, died very young.

3. Charlotte, born 1684, married — Smith, Esq., died 1707.

Ulysses, the youngest son of Sir Henry Blount (the traveller), inherited some lands in Herts upon his mother's death, and, upon his father's, an estate in

Surrey. He died in 1704, having by his wife Hester Hewett had one son and two daughters—

1. Henry, born 1689, died the same year.
1. Hester, born 1687, married Stephen Bateman.
2. Phillippa, married Sir Henry Bateman, elder brother of the above Stephen, and died 1718.

Sir Henry Blount (the traveller) had only one daughter, Frances, already mentioned, wife of Sir Thomas Tyrell, whose son was Sir Henry Tyrell.

The Blounts usually spelt the name Tyttenhanger "Tittenhanger."

To return to Sir Thomas Pope Blount, Bart., author, and son of Sir Henry (traveller). He had, by his wife Jane Cæsar, five sons and nine daughters—

1. Sir Thomas Pope Blount, of whom hereafter.
2. Henry, born 1679, died 1680, was buried at Ridge.
3. Charles, born 1683, was captain of a company of Fusiliers, and was killed in a sudden quarrel at the King's Arms tavern in the Strand in 1714; he was unmarried. He was buried at Ridge.

4. Cæsar, born 1688, was a lieutenant in the navy; married Jane Hodges.

5. Robert, born in 1689, Page of Honour to Queen Anne; he was a lieutenant in the Scotch regiment of Guards; he died unmarried in 1726, and was buried at Ridge.

1. Hester, born 1672, died 1675, and was buried at Ridge.

2. Elizabeth, born 1673, died unmarried at York, 1734.

3. Judith, born 1674.

4. Susanna, born 1677, married, in the church of Shenley, 1696, Michael Arnold, Esq., of Amptill, Beds.

5. Jane, born 1678, died unmarried in 1735, and was buried at Ridge.

6. Frances, born 1680, died 1729, was buried at Ridge.

7. Anne, born 1682, married the Rev. James Mashbourne in 1712, died in 1718.

8. Mary, born 1685, died at York in 1757.

9. Christian, born 1690, married, in 1733, the Rev. Rowland Bowen.

"Misstress Frances Blount's Will.

"I make my Sister Judith Blount Sole Executrix of this my last Will & Testament giving unto her all My Goods & Chattells only paying out of it unto my sister Jane and Chriss £200 each. unto my Sister Eliz: & my Sister Mary one hundred pounds each & unto my Sister Arnold & my B^r. Ceasar & my B^r. Robert 300 p^{ds} each the three last mentioned to be paid in what ever manner my Executrix shall think most for their Advantage either by ten p^{ds} a year whilst it lasts or as She thinks best for them. Therefore if they give her any trouble about it She Shall not be obliged to pay them any thing & in Case any of them Dye before they have Receiv'd all their Moneys it Shall not go to their Heirs but to my Executrix who I Desire to give one hundred p^{ds} to Hester Mashborne to be manag'd in the same manner or in Case of her Death to my Nephew Mashbourne & five pds to the poor of the Parish where I am Buried, w^{ch} I Desire may be wherever I Dye unless I should Dye at London & then I leave it to the Discretion of my Executrix either there or at Ridge in Hertfordshire.

"in Witness whereof &

"Dated the 19th of May

"1725."

"To Mrs. Judith Blount

"Worminghurst Park. Jan y^e 14th 1728.

"Upon Consideration of y^e alteration of the Circumstances of some of my Family it is my Intention to make an alteration in my Will Dated y^e 19th Day of May 1725 as follows, I now instead of

the 200 p^{ds} left to my Sister Jane give her £50 & Desire y^r after you have taken £300 to y^r Self & Discharg'd all Debts owing from me to any one & the other Legacys given in my Will that You will according to my Desire let the Remainder of my Fortune be dispos'd of in the manner as you think will administer the most Comfort & Relief to those of my Sisters as are in the greatest want & need of it, as I believe none will act more Reasonable in this Affair than y^r Self it is Requested of You Dear Sister by y^r affectionate Sister

“FRANCES BLOUNT.

“I also Desire that my Nephew Mashbourne may have one hundred p^{ds} to be p^d in the manner as is mentioned to his Sister.”

Sir Thomas Pope Blount, of Tyttenhanger, the second Baronet of that name, and son to the author, was born in the Strand, April 19th, 1670, and resided chiefly at Twickenham, where he died, Oct. 17th, 1731. He was buried at Ridge. He married, in King's Street Chapel, St. James', Nov. 8th, 1695, Katherine, eldest daughter of James Butler, of Amberley Castle, Sussex. The Butlers were a staunch Royalist family.

Sir Thomas was of a kind disposition, and greatly beloved; his regular and minute accounts show how much time and trouble he expended upon his household and estates; but there is nothing of his left that points to any talent or taste in particular. His wife, on the contrary, was a brilliant woman, full of cleverness and highly cultivated, fond of poetry, a lover of all that was refined and artistic, interesting herself in the passing world of her day, and gifted with a mind full of energy. Sir Godfrey Kneller's portrait of her is handsome and determined-looking. She was a friend of Alexander Pope, with whom she corresponded. He was connected with her husband through the Founder of Trinity.

In an old scrap-book containing some of her papers are these lines in manuscript—

“ Mr. Fenton’s Epitaph by Mr. Pope.

“ This modest Stone, what few vain marbles can,
May truly say, Here lyes an Honest man ;
A Poet blest beyond a poet’s fate,
Whom Heav’n kept sacred from y^e proud & Great ;
Foe to loud praise, & Friend to learned Ease,
Content with Sience in the Arms of peace ;
Calmly He look’d on either life, and here,
Saw nothing to regret, or there to fear ;
From Nature’s temp’rate Feast, rose satisfy’d,
Thank’d Heav’n that He had liv’d & that He dy’d.”

As Sir Henry (the traveller) was the hero of the Blounts of Tyttenhanger, so Katherine has ever remained a remarkable character amongst the ladies of this family. She was an imperious woman, but was evidently much respected. She had a large collection of all sorts of curiosities at Twickenham, and some are still remaining at Tyttenhanger, to which place they were brought. To her belonged the sheath with the ornamental arrows which she wore at a fancy ball, where she went dressed to represent Diana ; also the jewel box inlaid with agate, the ivory flute inlaid with gold, the Chinese cabinet containing a collection of coins, a strong box bound in brass, a cabinet inlaid with silver, and the richly embroidered quilt in pale yellow (the natural colour of the silk), with infant’s embroidered mattress and pillow to match (this was made for the birth of her first child, a little girl called Grace, who only lived a few months). She presented Ridge Church with handsome embroidered hangings, the remains of which exist as an altar-cloth.

Everything belonging to her has been kept with care, and handed down through several generations. Even now, some of her smaller treasures remain in the rooms at Tyttenhanger—her Chinese idols, the boxwood Romulus and Remus with the wolf, her engravings, her ivory crucifix, and little marble specimens and antiques.

One of Katherine Lady Blount's most intimate friends was her cousin, Mrs. Bovey, of Flaxley Abbey, the famous "Fair Widow" whom Sir Roger de Coverley admired. This lady was an expert in the art of carving, and there is a portrait of her at Tyttenhanger by Sir Godfrey Kneller in a highly ornamented frame, also a picture representing a scene in Roman history, with an elaborate frame. These carvings, executed in cork, were the work of Mrs. Bovey. Substantial legacies were left by her to Katherine Lady Blount, and to her daughter Catherine, who afterwards married Mr William Freman.

Mrs. Pope, by codicil dated 14th May, 1745, proved 13th April, 1747, left to Dame Katherine Blount "four of the family pictures that hang on the staircase." We do not know if these pictures are any of those at Tyttenhanger. Probably Mrs. Bovey's portrait is one. To Mrs. Catherine Freman, Mrs. Pope left "the picture with carved frame in my dining-room;" most likely this picture is the "scene in Roman history."

The relationship between Catherine Bovey and Katherine Blount came through Lady Blount's grandfather, James Butler, who was brother to Mrs. Bovey's grandmother. Lady Blount's mother, Grace Butler, was a Miss Caldecott, a remarkable woman, much like Mrs.

Bovey in some respects. An obituary notice of her by the pen of Dr. Robert Bolton, Dean of Carlisle, was published in the *Grub Street Journal*, 28th November, 1734, and is reprinted in *Wilford's Memorials of Eminent Persons*, as an adequate notice of Mrs. Grace Butler, with some complimentary lines by Pope. Her daughter, Grace Butler, a sister of Lady Blount, and therefore another second cousin of Mrs. Bovey, was an intimate friend, and lies in the same vault with her at Flaxley, with Mrs. Couling and Mrs. Pope, buried 3rd February, 1763.

Lady Blount took great pains with the education of her children. Thomas, the eldest son, had died when only one year old, and the second son, Henry, but generally called Harry, was now the heir. In 1725, Sir Thomas and Lady Blount decided to send Harry to Geneva with the travelling tutor Necker, and in company with his cousin, Sir Charles Tyrell.

The following letters are from Necker to Katherine Lady Blount :—

“At Geneva Sept. the 13th, 1725.

“MY LADY,

“As I look upon the letter I have had the honour to receive from Your Ladyship, as upon the best instruction I could have, for bringing up Your Son to all what becomes a worthy gentleman, I shall never loose the sight of it, and keep it up in that of Mr. Blount upon all necessary occasions. He hath such a deep sense of Your Ladyship's tender love and care for him, that I am persuaded he will always thinck it not only his duty but also a gratitude he ow's You, to follow Your good advices. Your Ladyship may believe perhaps, that the article You presented to Mr. Blount for his œconomy is not well observed, when you shall hear that, I toock the 11th of this month 1000 livres of this country upon his account, and for this reason I must tell You, that I wanted the

greatest part of the said summ for my own behalf, and that the great Feast, which the French Resident hath given here this days, upon the occasion of his Master's Wedding, hath caused some expenses to all the foreign gentry that liveth here, they having all appeared in new Clothés at the Ball, where they was invited and very magnificently entertained. But I must tell, that S^r Charles and Mr. Blount have been very modest in their dress, having put no silver or goold upon their coats but buttons and button holes and a shoulder knot, which later part whas the general ornament of all the English gentry. As Mr. Blount wanted a coat for the winter, the expenses for it are only anticipated one month or two, and Your Ladyship may bee sure, that for a long time he will but spend very little. I have also provided him with half a dozen shirts and with some other things he was wanting. I humbly thank Your Ladyship for Your kind complimenting me upon the Professorship, which hath been given to me by the Republick. It is yet a meere title, and may only bee an advantage to me when I ressolve to stay here, which your Ladyship know's hath been my intention, before I took upon me to travell with S^r Charles and with Mr. Blount. I hope I shall not been hindered to accomplish the engagements I have taken with Your Ladyship and with My Lady Tyrell, but in case it should bee a great disadvantage for me, to leave this place after the profession I have taken upon me hade drawn some gentelmen here, I am so confident of Your Ladyship's Kindness and benevolencz, that I dare believe You will in such a case dispense me of my duty, and give me leave, that I may put an other gentelman in my place, for whose conduct I may answer, and by whom my young gentelmen may rather win than loose. S^r Charles and Mr. Blount give their humble service to Your Ladyship and to S^r Thomas. I beg of You the same favour, and am with the greatest respect and zeal for your service My Lady

“Your Ladyship's
most humble and most obedient servant,
“NECKER.”

“Geneva, Oct. the 15th, 1725.

“MY LADY.

“I have set out till now to answer to the letter which Your Ladyship hath written to me upon S^r Charles Tyrell's melancholy subject, because I expected to receive from his mother

some ordres and instructions about it. They beeing not yet arrived. I think it necessary to let Your Ladyship know, that in case she should resolve to call him home, wich will bee the only expedient to draw him back from his unhappy inclinations. I shall not make this journey with him, but committ him to the care of some honest friend of mine, and consequently continue my care for your Son as long as Your Ladyship thinks it for his advantage to let him stay at this place. He understands now the french pretty well and improveth likewise in his exercises. My opinion is that it will bee very profitable for him to stay here one year longer, which time I shall take care to make him spend to his best advantage. Having a mind to settle here as a Professor of the Acadamy, I will keep him with me cheaper than he hath been here before, of which I will send to Your Ladyship an account as soon as things come to change with S^r Charles. I do not dout but I shall find out a way before Mr. Blount quits this place to put him in the company of one of his country men that hath a worthy govenour, to whose case he may safly been committed, in case he should farther want an other direction. For I hope that if he stays here still a year, I shall make him fit to bee his own Govenour, as several young gentlemen must bee, and spare the expenses that a Govenour requires. Your Ladyship will have time enough to reflect upon this point, and You may been persuaded that I shall give to Your Son always the best advices for his true interest. I dare say, that he hath already much changed to his advantage for his manners, and that I know no vicious inclination in him.

“Your Ladyship will bee his best guide by Your wise counsels, which I shall respect also as my ordres and directions, beeing with a perfect zeal and devotion.

“My Lady

“Your Ladyship’s

most humble and most obedient servant,

“NECKER.”

“Geneve le 2 Dec. 1726.

“MADAME,

“Il y a aujourd’huy 15 jours que je receus de Genes une lettre de Mr. Blountt dans laquelle il me marca, qu’il avoit pris la

resolution de se separer de Mr. Rigot et de continuer son voyage sans lui, parce qu'il trouvoit que la somme de 500ll que Vous destinés par an pour ses voyages ne suffiroient pas pour les depenses qu'il seroit obligé de faire, et qu'il valoit mieux employer l'argent que lui couteroît Mons. Rigot à ses menus plaisirs et a de petites emplettes. Je fus fort surpris de cette resolution et priois d'abord a Mr. Blount de ne rien changer à l'égard de la manière dont ses affaires étoient réglées, jusques à ce qu'il eut obtenu vôtre consentement; Je lui representai les raisons qui vous avoient engagé, Madame, à lui donner un compagnon, et qu'il étoit a craindre, qu'étant tres content de Mr. Rigot, comme il me l'a mandé dans toutes ses lettres, vous ne trouvassiez mauvais qu'il voulut s'en defaire sans vôtre agrement. Je viens d'apprendre a present par une autre lettre de Mr. Blount qu'il persiste dans son dessein, pour la seule raison de l'œconomie. Je me charge en même tems de vous le notifier, Madame et de vous assurer, qu'il tachera toujours de se choisir d'un endroit à l'autre un bon compagnon de voyage, de tenir une bonne œconomie et de se conduire d'une manière que ses parents en seroient content, d'autant plus qu'il leur est tres obligé de leur tendresse et des depenses qu'ils font pour lui. Je vois en effet par plusieurs circonstances qu'il tient un bon compte de son argent et qu'il fixera ses depenses à la somme qu'on lui destine; et comme il est d'ailleur dans un age, ou bien des gens sont obligés de se conduire eux même, je me flatte qu'il se servira de toute sa prudence; et qu'il ne courera aucun risque. Je suis seulement fâché, qu'il n'ait pas d'abord déclaré sa resolution de voyager sans directeur, parce qu'il dependoit de lui de le faire avec vôtre agrement, et qu'il auroit pu par là beaucoup epargner. Outre que je suis honteux d'avoir engagé Monsieur Rigot a une chose, qui lui doit donner de desagrement, et qui deplait beaucoup à ses parents, qui avoient fait de la depense pour ses equipages. Ce qui les console un peu c'est que leur fils n'a pas donné lieu à Mons. Blount de se separer de lui, et qu'ils voyent par ses lettres qu'il étoit tres content de sa conduite. J'espere, Madame, que pour la même raison Vous ne m'imputerez pas ces evenemens, en cas que Vous en fussiez mecontent. Comme Mr. le Chevalier Tyrell restera pour le moins encore un an icy, Mr. Blount lui a écrit qu'il repasseroit par cette ville dans 8. ou 9. mois, ce qui me fera beaucoup de plaisir. Je ne laisserai pas de lui donner de tems en tems mes bons avis, et je rechercheray toujours avec plaisir les

occasions par ou je pourray Vous convaincre du parfaite respect avec lequel j'ai l'honneur d'être Madame.

“Vôtre tres humble et tres
obeissant serviteur,

“NECKER.

“Je prie Mr. Le Chevalier d'agréer mes obeissance. Comme je suis fort pressé j'ai ecri cette lettre en françois.”

Sir Charles Tyrell married Jane Elizabeth, daughter of Mons. Sellon, of Geneva, in 1726. This year Mr. Henry Pope Blount had his portrait painted by Gardelle. There had already been a portrait taken of him when quite a youth, and a third in later years by Van der Vert.

An undated letter, marked Dec. 27th, addressed—

“To My Lady Blount,

“Twickenham,

“in Middlesex.

“pour l'Angleterre.

“MADAME,

“Je n'ai pas le tems de repondre en detail à la lettre que vous m'avés fait l'honneur de m'ecrire du 30^{me} Novembre. Je vous disai seulement, Madame que je viens de recevoir dans ce moment une lettre de Mr. Blount, dans laquelle il me marque qu'il continuera son voyage par l'Italie dans la compagnie de Mr. Rigot, et cela principalement à ce qu'il dit, pour Vous delivrer des inquietudes que vous pourriés avoir, si il voyageoit seul. Mais il espere que Vous consenterez, Madame, qu'en repassant par Geneve comme il a resolu de faire, après qu'il aura fait le tour de l'Italie il puisse laisser icy son compagnon, et achever le reste de voyages à son gre. Sur quoi je auray l'honneur de Vous expliquer mes sentimens par la poste prochaine. Monsieur Blount a bien laissé chez moi un coffre dans lequel il a enfermé son portrait, ses medailles et d'autres choses qui lui appartiennent ; mais il ne ma pas dit, que je devois envoyer ce coffre en Angleterre, parce qu'il pense de repasser par Geneve, et de prendre alors lui même ces

hardes. Ma femme Vous fait ses tres humbles recommandations. J'ai l'honneur d'être avec un parfait respect.

“ Madame,

“ Vôte tres humble et tres obeissant serviteur,

“ NECKER.”

“ à Geneve le 30^{me} Dec. 1726.

“ MADAME,

“ J'ai eu l'honneur de vous informer il y a 8 jours, que Mr. vôte fils m'avoit ecrit qu'il continueroit de voyager avec Mr. Rigot ; mais je viens d'apprendre par une lettre que je receu de celuicy avant hier, que Mr. Blount a executé sa première resolution, sans en avertir son compagnon que lorsqu'ils avoient deja tous deux pris congé de leurs connoissances à Genes, et fait leurs malles. Toutes les raisons que Mr. Rigot a alleguées pour empecher Mr. Blount de partir seul n'ont rien effectué. Il s'est toujours rétrencé, sur a que les depenses iroient trop loin s'il le gardoit, et il a temoigné, en partant le 19^{me} pòur Milan avec Mr. Clifford, que c'etoit à regret, qu'il se separoit de Mr. Rigot. Il lui a fait un present de 70 pistoles pour les depenses faites à l'occasion de ce voyage et pour les frais de son retour. Je ne sais que penser, Madame, de cette humeur changeante de Mr. vôte fils.

“ C'est un malheur qu'il ait pris sa dernière resolution avant ma dernière lettre, dans laquelle je lui marquai que vous etiés tres inquiete, Madame, de ce qu'il vouloit renvoyer Mr. Rigot, et que je vous avois incessamment mandé qu'il le garderoit, le priant de persister dans ce sentiment là.

“ Je n'eus pas le tems d'ecrire samedi passé autre chose à Mr. Rigot . . . de demeurer à Genes jusqu'à ce que je lui eusse ecrit une autre lettre. Mon dessein est de tenter, si je puis encore une fois rammener Mr. Blount par des nouvelles representations, et cela pendant qu'il est encore à Milan ou Mr. Rigot pourra bientôt le rejoindre. Je crains cependant que celuicy ne soit las d'être joué ainsi de Mr. Blount, et qu'il ne soit degouté de voyager avec lui. Enfin, Madame, si la chose est sans remede, j'exhorteray au moins Mr. vôte fils de la manière la plus forte de se conduire d'une manière qui ne Vous donne aucun chagrin, et de suivre exactement vos bons avis.

“Je souhaiterois, Madame, que Vous puissiez lui persuader d’aller à Hannovre, en sortant d’Italie. Je lui ai prescrit une route qui l’y mènera par les principales Cours d’Allemagne.

“Le flegme des Allemans sera fort propre pour temperer la trop grande vivacité de Mr. Blount. Le Duc d’Edimbourg lui fera, j’en suis seur un tres gracieux accueil, et je prieray mes amis de lui rendre toute sorte de bons offices ; en sorte que je ne doute point qu’il n’y passe un séjour agreable, et qu’il n’en tire beaucoup d’avantages. Je vous prie, Madame, d’être bien persuadé, que je prens part a tout ce qui Vous regarde, et que je continuerai de faire des vœux pour la prosperité de vôtre maison, non seulement dans la nouvelle année que nous allons comēncer et que je Vous souhaite parfaitement heureuse, mais toute ma vie.

“J’ai l’honneur d’être avec un grand respect Madame

“Vôtre tres humble et tres

obeissant serviteur,

“NECKER.”

Letter addressed—

“To My Lady Blount,

at Twickenham,

“County of Middlesex.

“pour l’Angleterre.”

“à Gene le 6^{me} Janv. 1727.

“MADAME,

“Mons. Blount m’a informé de son dernier changement, en m’envoyant les lettres y jointes. Je n’allegue pas d’autres raisons que celles de l’œconomie.

“Il me paroît pourtant par le compte qu’il a fait de ses depenses, que les 500ll. que Vous lui destinés auroient pu suffire ; et je suis persuadé, Madame que vous auriez mieux aimé d’ajouter encore quelque chose, en cas qu’il eût été necessaire, que d’epargner quelque chose, par une œconomie mal entendue. Je ne doute pas au reste, que Mons. Blount ne se serve de toute sa prudence pour le voyage qu’il fait par l’Italie, en sorte que Vous ne devés pas trop Vous inquieter à son egard. Il me dit qu’il veut repasser par Geneve ; mais je crois qu’il lui vaudra mieux d’aller droit à Hannovre, pour les raisons que je Vous ai expliquées dans une autre lettre. Je souhaite que la nouvelle année soit parfaitement

heureuse pour Vous Madame, et pour toute vôtre famille. J'ai l'honneur d'être avec un parfait respect Madame.

“Vôtre tres humble et tres

obeissant serviteur,

“NECKER.”

This is all that we know about Harry Pope Blount up to the time of his father's death.

Letter to Katherine Lady Blount—

“MADAM,

“I cannot omit this occasion of Expressing my particular concern for your Ladyship's late loss. The Death of S^r Thomas is really such to all that had the happiness to know him. The good character which he bore will make his Name be allways rememb'red with deferred comendation. May it please God to grant Your Ladiship health and all consolation. I am with true respect,

“Madam,

“Your Ladiship's most

obedient humble Servant,

“M. ST. PIERRE.

“Octob : y^e 31st, 1731.”

Sir Thomas Pope Blount, 2nd Baronet, by his wife Katherine Butler, had four sons and two daughters—

1. Thomas Pope, born in Park Place, St. James' Street, 1700, died 1701, and was buried at Ridge.

2. Henry Pope, who succeeded.

3. James Pope, born 1705.

4. John Pope, took Deacon's orders, died 1734, and was buried at Ridge.

1. Grace, born 1697, died the same year, and was buried at Ridge.

2. Catherine, born 1704, was married, 1730, to William Freman, Esq., of Hamels and Aspenden Hall.

Sir Harry Pope Blount, 3rd Baronet and eldest surviv-

ing son of Sir Thomas Pope Blount, was born in "The Terras, St. James' Street, Sep. 13th, 1702," and died in 1757. He was buried at Ridge. He married, in St. Peter's, Cornhill, Sep. 19th, 1728, Anne, youngest of two daughters and co-heirs of Charles Cornwallis, Esq., of Medlow, in Huntingdonshire. She brought him a fortune of £10,000. He died without issue. Sir Harry was the last of the Blounts of Tyttenhanger; at his death the estate went to his sister Catherine, who had married Mr. William Freman, and their only child, Catherine, succeeded.

The widowed Katherine Lady Blount continued to live at Twickenham.

From James Pope Blount to his mother, Katherine Lady Blount—

"For Lady Blount,
at Twickenham, in Middlesex.

"Catch French near St. Germaines
in Cornwal. By Collington Bay.

"July 5th 1737.

"HON^D MADAM,

"The account of the other side, I believe you'll find right, except the price of the Cracknells, w^{ch} I desir'd Your Ladyship wou'd be so Good in my last letter of the 20th of May to pay to my Aunt Judy when Her next Quarter was due, and charge it to my Account. On the 25th of August next, there will be another $\frac{1}{2}$ year's Interest due on Mrs. Mayhew, viz., 5 Pounds w^{ch} added to £2593=06s.=06 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., as on the other side is £2598=06s.=06 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., w^{ch} wants one Pound Thirteen Shillings & Five Pence Three Farthings of Two Thousand Six Hundred Pounds.

"In a letter of Your Ladyship's of the 18th of Jan^{ry} last, you are so Good as to say Six Months hence You will sell me an annuity for Six Hundred Pounds. I shall now gladly accept of Your kind Offer.

"There has come no letters here from Your Ladyship since the 20th of May last. Dr. Glanvil wrote to You since y^s time, we are fearful that Something is amiss in Your Family. I hope Worthy Mrs. Pope is quite recover'd of Her late indisposition. Dr. Glanvil is & will be for some months employ'd in collecting the great and small tythes, & the poultry of all sorts is so largely Increas'd that Mrs. Glanvil and I have enough to do to attend them.

"Mrs G. is now well again, but her active temper I fear will soon confine Her to Her Chamber. She is with the Dr. very much. Your Ladyship's Humble Servant, as is Hon^d. Madam with due Submission Your Obed^t. Son & Oblig'd Humble Servant,

"JAMES POPE BLOUNT.

"I'll Beg My Humble Duty to my Worthy Aunts. I have heard lately of several Accidents that has happen'd by eating of Cherry Stones. Dr. G. says it is oftentimes dangerous & has order'd all His Family never to swallow any Cherry Stones. I paid the Dr. His Quarteridge of £7 10s. on Midsummer Day."

Queen Caroline, wife of George II., died on November 20th, 1737. The following account of the Queen's death was found amongst some of Katherine Lady Blount's letters :—

"Copy'd from a Letter of Mrs. Purcel (a Dresser to y^e late Queen) to a Lady at Bath.

"I'll not make any apology (Dear Madam) for not haveing wrote to you, I do assure you, this is the first time I have taken a Pen in Hand since the Queen's Illness, w^{ch} lasted 12 dayes; 9 are now past since we lost the Best Queen, Friend & Mistress, that ever servants Had: yet still all my Faculties seem Benumb'd as if Seized with a Palsy; You that know what it is can judge, what One Suffers with La Coeur Serrè et la Tête tout embrouillè Heart Broken, & ones Head perfectly Disturb'd: & how little one is Capable of bearing even their Sorrow, from the first I foresaw our Loss, & hardly even felt a gleam of Hope; and yet when the Stroke came, I found None prepar'd, but Her that underwent it; who never from Her First Illness, Had any Hopes of Recovery; nor shew'd the least Fears of the pains She endur'd

or of the last closing scene ; Her only Concern was for the King's affliction, w^{ch} is certainly as Sincere and Intense, as ever Humane Nature Sustain'd. The Arch-Bishop who constantly attended Her, told me, that He never saw a Behaviour equally glorious, to Her's ; & that all She said to Him deserv'd to be printed. The first time He went to see Her, She was in great pain, but She told Him, tho' Her Body Suffer'd, She Had a Good Conscience, w^{ch} spoke Inexpressible Comfort to Her, & Supported Her in the midst of all Her Torments. About 2 Hours before She dy'd She call'd for the Duke who was in the Room (with the King & the Princesses) tho' He had at that time a Severe Fever, w^{ch} He contracted, by having Sat up Several Nights together ; when He came up to Her Bedside, She told Him, She had call'd Him, to give Him Her Last Blessing ; & upon that, to charge Him, to be always Dutyful to His Father, & never to listen to Any One, who might be wicked enough to Insinuate to Him, that they cou'd have Separate Interests ; for even if that were possible, He wou'd Find more Satisfaction. in the reflection of having done His Duty, than in the possession of all the Empires of the World ; and added, that whether He liv'd long, or not ; He wou'd find no thoughts worth His Care, on a dying bed ; but how He had liv'd ; & if He cou'd then feel that He had Acted the part of a Man of Honour. Justice, & of a Xtian. After She Had lain Quiet sometime ; The D^{rs}. ask'd Her to take Some Viper Broth, but She desir'd to have something to give Her a little Spirits ; the D^{rs}. brought Her some Palsy Drops in Madeira Wine ; the swallowing of w^{ch} put Her into a fit of coughing, & difficulty of Breathing for sometime. She then took leave of the Princesses, one by one ; gave some particular Directions to Each of Them. Last of all, She took leave of the King, & thanked Him for His Goodness to Her in the most moving terms ; & among other things said, My poor servants are under excessive affliction ; give me leave S^r to Recommend them to Your Protection. When she had done speaking to His Majesty, She order'd one of the Bed Chamber Women to take away the candle w^{ch} stood by the Bed ; the King ask'd Her if the light hurt her Eyes. She said No Sir but I wou'd spare you the affliction of seeing me dye ; She then was Quiet about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an Hour, at the end of which, She call'd for those in the Room (for the Arch Bp. was gone) to read the Recommendatory prayer, & desir'd them to pray for Her, & read aloud that She might hear them ; before it

was Finish'd She Expir'd. The King staid in the Room with Her about $\frac{1}{2}$ an Hour after, & I believe Has not Known a thought Since, but what tended in the strongest manner to Shew His Tenderness, and Regard, to Her Memory.

"His First Act, was to Confirm to All Her Servants, respective Salaries for their Lives; the Next, was to look into the Account of Her Charitable, Pensions, w^{ch} amounted to £13000 per Annum; w^{ch} He likewise Confirm'd; not Satisfy'd with that, He order'd that We shou'd All let Him know the Names of those, who receiv'd Casual Relief thro' Our Hands, that He may from time to time assist them.

"This is the Behaviour of the Man, who has been call'd False to Her, Fickle in His Friendship and Avaricious. He has order'd Her Body to be Embalm'd as near as they cou'd get any light in the manner of the Egyptians, at the expense of between 5 and £600. Her Funeral is to be in the manner of Queen Ann's & Her whole Family attends on dayes about Her, as if She was still alive. The Ladies of the Bed Chamber, Lord Chamberlain, & Master of the Horse by day, 2 Maids of Honour, 2 Bedchamber Women, & a Equerry by Night."

From James Pope Blount to Katherine Lady Blount—
For

"Lady Blount
at Twickenham
in Middlesex

"Newport in y^e Isle of Wight
Mondy. Ober y^e 16th 1738

"HON^D MAD^M,

"I thank you for Your Letter & for y^e gift of Theophilus etc: w^{ch} I have once read, & design to read it often carefully Over. By Mrs. Serle's advice I shall remove to another lodging here in Town when my quarter is out, w^{ch} will be on y^e 27th of this month: there is many good reasons w^{ch} occasions my leaving Mr. Wise, y^e chief One is, t'is suspected He kisses His maid, & an other inconvenience is, His business often causes His being from Home, at w^{ch} times there is none left in y^e House but the Maid & I. The person who I am going to is one Mr. Bowdin an elderly Man by Trade a Grocer. He has in His Family a Wife, a Daughter a Woman, Two Servants, & Two Tradesmen Sons both very Young, who go to Mr. Dickinson's School, the Worthy Minister of this

Town; this I fancy will be pleasanter than having only 3 in Family, as soon as I am remov'd I will let you know. Mr. Bowdin's House nearly joins to the Church, and what I like is, the Church Yard is at a great distance out of Town, w^{ch} often harbour wicked people in y^e night.

"Our Head Magistrate here, the Mayor, who was Collector of y^e Customs a place of above £200 p^r ann. has defrauded the Government of above £2,300, in 2 years' time; & in order to prevent the fraud from being found out, forg'd several bills; He is now turn'd out, His House secur'd, and the purchase mony, £1000 is lost, besides He must pay £1000 security mony. This man proves y^t there is no real advantage to be reap'd by Sin; all y^t is got by it is Trouble, Mischief & Shame, & one can have no expectations from y^t Source, but Death & Ruin.

"I was lately very uneasy in my mind in Bed, fearing y^t I had committed the Sin against the Holy Ghost: but providentially by chance reading Bp. Taylor's Opinion of y^t Sin, for y^e sake of Sick & Doubting Persons, says, 'certain it is, No One commits a Sin against y^e Holy Ghost, if He be afraid He hath, & desires y^t He had not done it; for such penitential passions are against y^e Definitions of y^t Sin' & if this is the case, I think No One living can be guilty of y^t Sin. Yesterday I finish'd the reading of y^e 2^d Vol. of 54 Sermons preach'd at Berry Street 1733, by 6 Dissenting Ministers, One of Hell or the Final Misery of y^e Wicked. The words are 'If a Sinner in Hell did but know that He shou'd suffer those Torments no more than a thousand years; or no more thousand of years than there are Sands upon y^e Sea Shore, or Spires of Grass upon the Face of y^e whole Earth; it wou'd rejoyce him to think that however there wou'd be an End. But no End! never! never!' To do Justice to your Ladyship, I must own y^t You have taken care that I cannot plead Ignorance of my Duty. I likewise must add that I have had fair warning.

"The 1st of November next being the birth day of Your Unfortunate Son, I shall beg You on my account to give to 33 poor Families 33½ peck loaves but I desire they may not know the Donour.

"All that I can say at present more is y^t I am gratefully Your Ladyship's Obed^t Son & Serv^t."

"JAMES POPE BLOUNT.

"I hope Good Mrs. Pope & my Aunts are well."

Dr. Glanville seems to have remained a friend of the family, for there is a long letter written to Katherine Lady Blount by him. It is dated from Catchfrench, June 21st, 1745, and commences—

“MADM. It is a while since I r’ced Your Ladyship’s last, & I ought to have answered it sooner but we have nothing here worth your knowledge, & Politicks are so bad, & y^e Consequences so fatal & disagreeable, that one would forget them as much as one could, or ought; all I shall now say is, that my opinion, that y^e Queen of Hungary’s principal vein was, & ever will be, to make her Husband Emperour of Germany, is sufficiently justified, from whence it follows that a Peace is impossible till France is brought very low, or we are made a Province, one must happen, which first y^e uncertain event of War will determin, sooner or later: things are much against us at present, nor do I see the Power of France abates, their Politicks are good, & their Schemes are well laid for themselves; I own it is our interest to get y^e Duke of Tuscany chosen, but then France will never lay down y^e Sword, & if any other is chosen y^e Q of Hungary will never lay it down, so that we are in a fine Condition; who France would have for Emperour I have never heard; Probably the Elector of Bavaria again, perhaps even y^e King of Prussia, who has further Views than Silesia, & as for his becoming a Papist for it, he won’t stick at that, there is very little difference between the Nonsense of Consubstantiation & Transubstantiation, he that believes one will be easily perswaded to y^e other, so Prussia’s King has but a slight Transition to qualify him for Emperour.

“A member here, a good Freind to our Constitution, told me that there was such an Indolence & carelessness above, that one would think they had given all up, quite indifferent how things went abroad or at Home, or affairs were so perplex’d, that they know not what to do; nor do I see we are able to do much, so that our safety depends upon Providential accidents in our favour. I hear also that Luxury, & all sorts of Pleasures are carried to vast heights in London, & Doubtless y^e Country will be infected in proportion, ’tis said that more new Coaches were made last year, than in y^e South Sea Year, what will this end in: tis true if these Vices do not enervate us & make us poor with respect to Foreigners, by

lessening that Trade; & sending Mony out of our Nation; the General Kingdom will not be hurt; only the individual fools who are so vicious; the Mony only changes Masters, not Kingdoms, but I fear that our Luxury is supplied from abroad, & our Mony goes for it there; and Trade neglected, & then y^e effects will be fatal, but Your Ladyship may know more of this than I can; this I know, that both abroad, and at Home the prospect is bad . . .”

Dr. Glanville then gives some descriptions of diseases and their cure, and after a long explanation regarding the state of his private affairs, he begs to borrow the sum of £400. He continues—

“I hope Sir Harry is quite at peace with you, & that you have made him sensible, what a blessing prudence is, this will make y^e rest of your life happy, this join'd to y^e present enjoyment in Mrs. Freeman, and the pleasing Prospect of y^e Continuance of it in a Daughter; pray my very humble Service and good Wishes to that family. I am sorry at the Distress of y^e Mashborn's, the vicious must expect misfortunes, but tis hard for y^e industrious to suffer. . . . I have often wondered at y^e lunacy of your Footman an unaccountable distemper, as it depends upon y^e Disorder of y^e finest Textures of y^e Body, very little is to be done by medecin, there are no certain Cures for mad People, time unaccountably does all, there are no Specificks for it in Physick, all that is done that way, is by temperance and violent . . . I suppose y^e poor fellow is dead . . . And now Mad^m I heartily wish you health, and Peace of mind in respect to other People, Peace of Conscience You have, & so you are happy; as you told me Mr. Pope said, none but y^e good are so . . .”

Sir Harry Pope Blount was not a handsome man. He was fair, with a round, pleasant face and merry blue eyes. In later life his face became coarser, and his features thickened. He wore a smart satin coat and folded white necktie. There is no portrait of his wife existing that we know of, and so little is known about her, only the slight record of her life spent at Tytten-

hanger and sometimes in London, and the fact that she died childless. A friend describes her thus—"In lovely Annabella, ev'ry virtuous charm I find." Sir Harry resided much on his estate at Tyttenhanger. All his life he appears to have been troubled with money matters. At one time he had borrowed the sum of £1,096 from Gaspard Sellon, and in 1737 M. Sellon received the sum of £500 from "Lady Blount" in part payment, and Sir Harry was to pay the remainder in instalments. Katherine Lady Blount alludes to this debt later in a letter.

From Sir Henry Pope Blount to Katherine Lady Blount—

"To the Lady Blount

at Twickenham. Middlesex

"Tittenhanger Aug^t 1, 1742

"HON^d MADAM,

"My Aunt Butler takes no Notice of my Letters, that I must write to Your Lady^p who are nearer to me being my Mother, & as such if You are not different from all y^e Parents of y^e world who have any Religion, You will have some Tenderness for a son who was y^e Child of all Your Children who Lov'd You best, & whom You flatter'd You Lov'd best, was y^e Child I am sure who trusted You most. I have been Implicitly Obedient to Your Lady^p, have done nothing to forfeit y^e Tenderness You owe me, but Resenting what flesh & blood cou'd not help Resenting, that Treatment I met with as soon as I was of age by y^e Settlement then, & again by my Marriage Settlement when I gave a fair sum as I thought for a Fair 800*l.* a year, supposing it wou'd always last (at least for my Wives & my Life) 800*l.* a year, Had I Madam drawn You in by these Settlements to loose any part of Your Jointure, or Your rights, for y^e Injustice is as Natural of y^e one side as y^e other, what is it that You wou'd not have thought of me? what Usage & Contempt Madam shou'd not I have deserv'd at Your hands? these things Madam, & a place so long forsaken by my Family & left upon me to take care of, besides y^e excessive Losses

from Stewards not of my own putting in, & Tenants, have so totally reduc'd me, that if you will believe me, as there is a God in Heaven, my Wife & I have not had one farthing of Mony for a month together, & now I have only one sixpence more, even some of my Michaelmas rents are pay'd. Poor people have been arrested because I cou'd not pay 'em, & it is only from Gods Providence I have not been in a Gail.

"Among y^e many things to pull me down, I shou'd have nam'd Lawsuits which I was oblig'd too to get my own, & now I am ingag'd in 2 Chancery suits for y^e London Houses which continue Madam still unlet, & instead of £143 a year which I bought 'em at will in y^e years end, after Taxes payd, bring me in I fear nothing. Yet Madam these Houses had I mony or power like every other Gentleman but myself in England might be made something worth. It grieves me Madam that You force me & my Necessity together to have a 3^d Chancery suit with Your Lady^p or what is y^e same Your Tenants. I look upon y^e Tithes Madam as my due as much as any thing else I inherited at my poor Fathers death, & Your Lady^p if I mistake not own'd my right to 'em by once offering to compound for 'em in Mony, I may then take 'em in y^e way I please in Kind, but Your Lady^p has injoin'd Your Tenants not to let me have 'em in Kind, & they have obey'd Your Orders. All Animositys & Quarrels in all cases might have an end if y^e Partys wou'd give one another a fair Hearing, but there are others whose Interest it is to keep 'em up, Ashtons who made y^e settlements so are oblig'd to maintain 'em, who get Mony by y^e Combustion these Settlements make so are glad to blow y^e Coals. Miss Jane Walley whom Your Lady^p has an Opinion of, cou'd tell You how Ashton acted to her Mother. I tell You Madam were it not for him & such people Your Lady^p & I might still be Friends, & both keep unmolested our own, but as it Your Lady^p I am sure is made Unhappy & I am Miserable & Ruin'd.

"My wife is Your Lady^{ps} if You will accept of her, & I Madam am as I have always been

"Your Lady^{ps} dutiful
affectionate Son & Humb^l Servant

"HARRY POPE BLOUNT.

"I desire my Respects to my Aunt, & beg if Your Lady^p will answer me at all it may be this week."

Sir Harry's private accounts, which still exist from 1740 to 1750, all show considerable sums paid from the estate of Tyttenhanger to Katherine Lady Blount. At the end of his accounts for the year 1740, this note is written by his hand :—

	“ rents		tax'd
“ my mother	473	—	94 . 12
myself	340	—	68 . 00
	<u>813</u>		<u>162 . 12</u> ”

In some of his estate accounts the following signatures appear :—

“ 18th May 1745, seen & allowed by us

“ GRIMSTON
GEORGE GRIMSTON
WM. DAY.”

In others are signatures of Geo. Grimston, A. Bucknall, Tho. Gape.

The following letter from Sir Harry has no address, but is evidently written to his brother-in-law, William Freman.

“ DEAR BROTHER,

“ I own my obligations to you for lending me y^e sum of Fifty Pounds, to keep up a little longer from sinking a poor Soul, Bound Hand & Foot, every thing but Gagg'd.

“ What you have done, my kind Mother wou'd not do : after having made me between 2 & £3000 in Debt, my Household Goods sold to her in Mortgage, and she detains between 2 & £300 a year from y^e Income which in Justice I ought to have.

“ What I aver I shall readily upon occasion state to you in Black & White, for I will Maintain or say nothing that I cant set my Hand to, & let all y^e world see it ; but y^e Value of 4 score pounds a year due to me ever since my Fathers death for Tithes, & £99 a year sunk in my London Houses, always represented to me for y^e Flower of y^e Estate, & purchas'd by me for £173 a year, & other Deficiencies in my settlement by Quit rents, etc., which it

may be suppos'd I was quite in y^e Dark about at my Marriage, & it was intended I should be so, having no Council to give me Light allow'd me. These things for y^e present I hope will suffice for y^e Truth of my asseveration.

“Tantum Religio potuit suadere surely can never be better apply'd than to my Calamitys ! which not like those of other Familys, y^e Cæsars your Relations and mine, owing to y^e want of Regard to y^e Children, y^e Folly, Dissoluteness & Extravagance of y^e Parent, but from y^e very Reverse—Pretensions of y^e Tenderest Care & affection for y^e Child, Professions of great Wisdom, extreme savingness, & mighty sanctity. That as I have had abundantly of y^e Good Will of y^e Pharisee, so I thank you for y^e kindness of y^e Samaritan.

“I am Dear Brother,

“Your obedient Humble Servant,

“HARRY POPE BLOUNT.

“I always desire to be my Sisters & her family's Humble servant.

Tittenhanger, Feb. 12th 174⁵.”

Whilst Sir Harry was thus occupied with his accounts, the letting of his farms, and everything connected with his estate, his wife took interest in the house and garden, making arrangements for the planting of stock gilly-flower, sweet marjoram, lavender, and many flowers and herbs of which she made lists. She also kept a manuscript book bound in white vellum, into which she copied many songs and rhymes composed and sent to her by friends.

We give a few extracts from Ann Lady Blount's manuscript-book :—

“*A Song made extempore in a coach going to Tittenhanger, where a Lady was afraid of being drove too fast.*

I.

“Oh William we greatly conjure you
to amble as smooth as you can
if not we shall never endure you
but think you a barbarous Man

2.

“ if fear can but merit your pity
 look look, with compassion on me
 some think that to fly's very pretty
 we chuse to jog on soberly

3.

“ if you will but gently drive us
 to bright Tittenhanger fair Seat
 you then will for ever oblige us
 we n'ere shall your kindness forget.”

*“ to Sr Harry Pope Blount, on his saying he wou'd not
 have a fiddle on my lady's birth Day.*

“ if not yet quite abandon'd here attend
 Cleon, to the remonstrance of a Friend
 remember Cleon, oh remember well
 bethink thee when at Angers we did dwell
 how gay you was, how much you lov'd to dance
 nor did it seem th' effect of airy France
 how much you laugh'd and talk'd and sung and jump'd
 how oft the floor your merry feet have thump'd
 mirth and good humour still your person grac'd
 nor chin, by fingers then, with scars was lac'd
 then whence, alas proceeds this dreadful change
 and why, to every pleasure grown so strange
 if you were really old, infirm or lame
 if heaven had made you thus, twou'd be no blame
 but otherways it is, a burning, shame
 that the bare mentioning a fiddle's name
 shou'd put your noble temper in a flame
 how cou'd you Annabella's suit denye
 or with your quondam partner not comply
 had you been ask'd to make a splendid bail
 you might have answer'd cross, or not at all
 but since, for one poor, jigg, we did but pray
 to celebrate bright Annabell's birth Day
 then to refuse, was worse, than Turk or jew
 to blast our hopes just opening to our view

but do not think you shall unpunish'd goe
 or that we'll not revenge this cruel blow
 Cleon, the first of April soon will come
 think e're too, late, prevent your threaten'd doom
 else hear and tremble, you all day shall toil
 in quest of ell broad packthread, stirrip, oyl,
 while at your heels shall run the gigling fry
 with. Sir, your garter's drop'd, your wig's awry
 this or some worse correction is decreed
 what can atone for such a horrid deed
 what deep remorse, what anguish will you feel
 when lipping urchins shall your shame reveal
 a punishment too mild for such a crime
 but as you're warn'd, rightly but use your time
 if wise you may avert impending fate
 promise a fiddle, we'll forget our hate
 but if you're obstinately bent I swear
 our hearts shall dance, you cannot stop us there.

“STELLA.”

*“upon the Death of the St Albans assembly, written by
 the chief mourner at that fatal funeral.”*

“it must be so, forbear fair maids to moan
 St Albans bright, Assembly dead and gone
 those happy days are now for ever past
 and I too wretched Nymph, have seen the last
 your faithless partners all refuse to come
 and heed not if you dance to lute, or drum
 oh barb'rous youths, then is it thus you pay
 the pains we took, to dress and show away
 no more shall Squeelo's shrill ton'd voice delight
 nor clockwork Grimlo, entertain your sight
 pleasures that once appear'd in various shapes
 the beautilous Tombses, and more beautilous Gapes
 those lovely swains, whoever yet beheld
 but was with sudden admiration fill'd
 Cheesemelia, too, must quit her tripping pace
 and in the shop resume, her native place
 no more Draperia's languid Eye shall bless

which every soft Idea did express
 sad Borrowdella, sits in sullen mood
 and pines to see that Men can be so rude
 indignant that her scheme did not succeed
 for which Alass, her tender heart does bleed
 Stella her earrings, crushes in despair
 and vows she will no more those baubles wear
 a gen'ral mourning midst, the fair is spread
 and every distant hope of joy is fled
 but why shou'd I this fatal theme pursue
 tis cruel thus your sorrows to renew
 this thought alone, misfortunes shou'd create
 there's no resisting the decrees of fate
 since this fair fabrick which did last so long,
 is fallen, at length, yet was its pillar Strong."

On the margin of her book Lady Blount has written
 —"cheesemelia, Miss Ironmonger, the cheesemongers
 daughter. Draperia, Mrs. Young, the woolen Drapers
 wife remarkable, for an ill natur'd look."

This portion of a letter from Katherine Lady Blount
 to her daughter, Mrs. William Freman, shows that Anna
 Lady Blount had been pleading with her mother-in-law
 on Sir Harry's behalf. Mr. Johnson, who is mentioned
 in the letter, was Sir Harry's London agent.

"Feb: y^e 7th 1748

"DEAR CHILD,

"I got Mr. Car to sign in y^e vestry, & as soon as
 Prayers were over sent Richard to y^e Church Wardens y^t no time
 be lost yf I could help for I see my Son wrote y^e Cirtificate in hast.
 Mrs. Eliz: Butler was named. Disagreeable Letters I have had
 sent by Mr. Johnson (& w^t he says You will see on y^e other side)
 why he sent y^m I cannot tell, as he has often said hee would be
 y^e sender of no more wⁿ he knew it could signifie nothing: y^s he
 knows in y^s case & I am sure he would not think it wise y^t I
 should go on to stop gaps to no purpose if I were in a condition to
 do it. He knows nothing can do but stating y^e debts truly (w^{ch}

they often deceive In much to their own hurt wⁿ they find Friends to undertake their affairs to set in some order by having y^e Estate at Nurse) & puting y^e Estate into wise Friends Hands to Pay off so much Yearly. Y^s the proposed by my Son, I see soon was drop't by y^s frivolous proposal of y^e £1000. Nothing Else will satisfie y^e creditors much longer I am persuaded, & dread He will be in Jail in a short Time, out of w^{ch} by my help he cannot come for I have nothing more to part wth if I would be just to those who I am to Pay during their Lives : tho I were to forget how I am to live myself, yt, if I had my Jointure to be sure I could do, but w^t I now live on as well as I can, & take care to Pay y^e annuities must be left for y^{ts} use, & not lessen'd by mee lest by any misfortune there should not be sufficient to Pay y^m. Wⁿ those Farms came into My Hands I happen'd to have more money by me than I had ever had. Interest was low, & a Sum at hand upon any occasion (troublesome times I apprehended) is convenient, but y^t is gon, it has inabled me to go on thus long y^e easier.

“Y^e 1000^l is not to be had on y^e Terms she mentions, & Mr. Johnson has told her so, and thⁿ she wrote me y^t she could have it in a week if I would ingage to leave 1000^l at My Death to answer it. Being so positive I was weak enough to think there was something in it, & desired Mr. Ashton to go to Mr Johnson y^t such Methods might be consulted as might be to purpose, w^{ch} I was promised by Mr. Sel: my Son should come in to wⁿ I gave y^e 500^l. Nothing was don, & I ressolved to depend on Honour no more. But now I am not able to ingage 1000^l if they would come into Measures. I suppose You see how little truth y^e letter contains. 1000^l is far from w^t would make My Son easy who owes so much more, if he will resolve to go on increaseng y^e debt, as he has don ever since he had y^e 500^l. I think it is 2 years agoe L: B: (Lady Blount) said here, how but 100^l was oweing to Mr. Sellon (y^e whole debt was much sooner to have been paid off.) She forgets y^e Estate in Princes Street never was 150^l p^r ann: & they have a Ground Rent still the same fully low. If 400^l would have prevented y^e fall y^t has been (w^{ch} is another untruth, it could only have lessen'd it) why would he not set by so much Timber as to do it, out of w^t he often said was worth 10,000^l it might Easily have been don & so others would have thought wth half. If his Estate has been never clear whose fault was y^t. It has not been y^e less so for y^e 1000^l from any

Payments they have made. And she must know truer reassons for their debts. She repeats again y^t 1000^l would do it, tho she knows it would not near half do, if My Son knows w^t he has years agoe sent me under his own Hand. Whether anyone would let y^m have 500^l upon My ingaging 1000^l I know not (for too many deal wth y^e Extravagant in y^s way) but upon much better Terms People of Business know it is not to be had, & sure no one but y^e People themselves would come into such measures, it must be a very foolish Parent y^t would. If no Friends can persuade y^m to come into right measures I really believe a little Time will put him, & his Estate into y^e Hands of his provoked Creditors.

“W^t You, & My Son would give up, is really kind but w^{ch} way it will be managed wth y^m or his L^y I cannot tell, I am sure I must not do y^e least thing in it. and except it be don in a right & wise way it would be doing no kindness to any one. Y^e want of y^s (w^{ch} is often more to y^e purpose than y^e value of a thing) has brought on y^s Ruin. For half y^e Sum of y^e Timber, and other things would have been more than sufficient. . . .”

On September 13th, 1749, writing to a friend from Tyttenhanger, Sir Harry sent through him his sincerest respects to Lady Tyrell at Geneva, promising to acquaint her with anything relating to her daughter, who he said was in good health.

Katherine Lady Blount died on March 2nd, 1753, leaving her books, prints, coins, medals, rarities, and curiosities to her son, Sir Harry Pope Blount, and at his death, which took place on July 31st, 1756, they went to his sister Catherine.

With Sir Harry the name Pope Blount of Tyttenhanger passed away.

Catherine, youngest daughter and last surviving child of Sir Thomas Pope Blount, 2nd Baronet, now became possessor of Tyttenhanger. She was born in 1704, and was married in 1730 to William Freman, Esq., of

Hamels and Aspenden. He died February, 1749, and his wife died 1763.

William and Catherine Freman had an only child, Catherine, born in 1735; married, May 19th, 1755, to the Hon. Charles Yorke.

The Fremans, contemporaneous with the Blounts, were of an old Northamptonshire family settled in Hertfordshire—highly respected and upright, of strong Protestant feelings, in politics inclined to be liberal. In a note-book kept by them is given by one of their ancestors an account of the origin of their name.

*“ The Opyinion of Heraulds of Arms Upon the name of
ffreman.*

“ Freman Js a name in England Dissended from y^e Saxons contynuiings to the Number of xxiiij. desents where of Seaven where Knights: All of them Gentlemen of fame and good name without Attaynte of blood, The first was S^r Alexander who being a Captive, to Robert duke of Cornewell was by him made free for y^e good Services he did him In Ireland, And soe hee was Called in all the Campe ffreman and hatz soe Contynued unto this in y^e Name. They Bearinge for their Coate Armour, Sable: A Cheveron Or: Betweene three Lozenges: Argent: with a mantle Argent: dobled gules: on a helme and dorse proper eseuentt of a wreath of y^e ffirst & second. A Copeye Or:”

In the same book a Mr. William Freman gives some account of his life and travels.

An^o 1555
Septemb^r

Marz
1570

1573

“ J W^m freeman was Borne in y^e Towne of Northampton being in y^e Sa^m Towne y^t my ffather & Anchestors weare Borne And there J was brought upp At scoole untill An^o Dom 1570 And then J ca^m to London the 7th day and was placed to have dwelt wth Mr. Edward Nalton a mercer in Cheape Side: But out of a dislike of A retayling trade: Although J was there verely well placed yett J removed my Selfe ffrom there And placed my Selfe wth a marchant Adventure^r named M^r Amell Berkett ffree of the Co^mpany of

Habordashers And by him J was made ffree in Aprill 1582 of London.

An^o 1574 “J spent at Hambrowe And in y^e End of March J was made free
1575 of y^e Company of y^e mrchants Adventured in Andwarpe And ffrom
1576 thence went to Hambrowe againe and there Continueued until An^o
1577.

1577 “J went againe to Andwarpe & there J contynued untill An^o
1578 : And in

An^o 1578 “J went to Roane in Normandy and Yn

An^o 1579 “J went back to Anwarpe & from thence to Embden & from
thence to Roane.

An^o 1580 “J spent in Roane untill y^e Experatione of y^e tyme J covenanted
1581 to serve.

An^o 1582 “The 17th Novemb^r J went ffrom London and took passage in
a shipp called y^e great Susann : that went for Constantinople : And
ou^r ffirst place of Landing was at port Pedro : On y^e Land of
Mayorke & there we tooke in fresh water & victualls but wth som
hazard.

An^o 1583 “The 26 March wee came to y^e Jland of Scio : where was dis-
charged y^e to of the Shipp Lading of Clothes Kersyes & Tyne.
There J tooke a house & Contynued untill Septemb^r And finding
little Sail for our Co^modities in Scio : J went over to Tirea On
Asia Side And there made Saile of all.

An^o 1584 “J went ffrom thence to Coⁿpo^{le} And Continueued not long there
But went ffrom thence to Angorye : where as J could not learne
that there Ever had benn anny English man before : There J
took a house & dwelt first wthin the Castle : And then rem^oved
out of y^e Castle & dwelt in thee toune where J contynued untill
Novemb^r 1587.

An^o 1587 “J came back from Angorye to Constantinople And tooke my
Jorney from thence to co^m Jnto England : ffirst to Adrinople &
oe through Slavonia to Naronta where J tooke my passadge ffor
Veⁿice in a Gally of vennice—And from thence came throughe Som
part of Ger^mainey as Ausburrowe & Norrenborrow & came to
Hambrow And at Stond J tooke passadge & came to London Jn
August in

An^o 1588 “When as y^e Armada of Spayne (where of J had Adverticement in
Jtaly) was uppon ou^r coast of England : by Gods providence defeated
although by generall report y^t was thought to be Jnvincible—

1588 “Att my returne into England J went to Northampton where to

my g^t Comfort J found my ffather & Mother booth in good health : Whoe shortly after: ffor y^t all my Bretheren & sisters were gonn from them, They sould there howse, beeing in y^e Bridge Street at Northampton, & did com to dwell with my Eldest Brother Henrye ffreman att his howse at Stepney w^{ch} was then y^e parsonage howse, And there they remained Untill & after my Brother his decess, whoe deperted this life before my ffather: whom y^t pleased God alsoe shortly afterward to take to his mercye: And bothe their Bodyes doe ly Buryed in y^e Chaſcell of Stepney Church—And my Mothere whoe deperted this life Shortlye after them lyeth Buried in y^e Vault w^{ch} was on y^e south side of y^e Chancell of y^e parish Church of S^t Michaell on Cornhill in London—Then resting Living my Second Brother Thomas ffreman disposed to unthriftines: And my Sistor Elizabeth the wife of Tho: Hussye gent: And my Sister Mawdlyne wife of Robert Duckmanton gent: And these 3 weare Elder then mysele—

“My Eldest Brother Henry ffreman & my Sister Mary freman the wife of Ed: Duckmanton: young^r than mysele—

“My Eldest Brother Henry ffreman left me his Executo^r then living his third wife: And one daughter w^{ch} he had by her, whoe was borne y^e 23^d May An^o 1587: Named Dorothy ffreman: This woman being Sister to M^r John Powell Surveior^e of the Ordinance at his Instigation comēced a Sute ag^t me: to my g^t trouble and a hinderance to her daughter Dorithey whereof, when it was too late she was veyre sorrifull not wth standing J tooock g^t care of her daught^r Dorrity ffreman: And likewise of y^e motherless Children of my B^{ro} Tho: ffreman: named Thomas & Elinor.”

The Fremans had a useful recipe.

“To make an horse ffatt.

“Give him 3 mornings to gether A pint of sweete wine and 2 spoonsfull of Diapente mixed together, w^{ch} will take a way all Infecion and sickness from y^e inwarde partes. Then feed him weell wth provender att least 4 tymes A day, that is, After his water in y^e morning. After his water at noone. & After his water in y^e evening. And after his water at nine of y^e Clocke at night. Observing not to give him of all one sort of provend^r but Change his meate. y^t he may Eat it wth y^e better Stomacke: As thus if in y^e morning you give him oates, at noone give him bread. At

Evening beanes or pease mixt wth wheate brane. And at night sodden Barly. And this will complish y^e desire in 10 dayes."

Mr. William Freman's younger brother Ralph married, in 1596, "Joane Crowch daughter of Mr. John Crowch of Corneburyneere Buntingford in y^e parish of Layston:"* there is the entry of his death—

"S^r Ralph ffreman Lord Mayo^r deyed in his marolty At London y^e 16th March An: 1633 and was buried 'Jn y^e Chancell in Cornehill Church.'"

Mr. William Freman writes, "and upon y^e 14th day of ffebruary 1597 I was married at Layston church to Elizabeth eldest daughter of y^e say^d John Crowch being then the widdow of M^r Mathew fflyer; whoe departed this life y^e 21st of June An^o 1596 & left her with 3 children named Mathew, ffrancis & Elizabeth."

Mr. William Freman had by this lady a son and four daughters, and the first mention of a burial at Aspenden is that of his third daughter, Sara, who was "borne y^e 4th Decemb^r 1605, deyedd y^e 5th Decembe^r 1622, buried at Aspenden." Previous to this date the Fremans had generally buried at Northampton or Cornhill. After this, Aspenden frequently became their burial-place. Mr. William Freman died in London 29th August, 1623, aged 68, and was buried in Cornhill Church.

There is a long list of "Birth Dayes, Crissinige Dayes, marriage Dayes and the Dayes of y^e Departure from this Life to A Better, and where Buried," not only of the Fremans, but of "Severall freinds and Relations." There is mention of the death of "y^e Lady Ca'ser at Hadham y^e 17 June 1662."

* *Vide* Freman note-book.

Some of the names of those who intermarried with the Fremans are—Soames, Crowch, Auberey, Hussey, Hewitt. There were some marriages with the Montagues. Margaret Crowch had three husbands—Alten Elyne, John Hare, and lastly, in 1620, “Sr Hen Mountague after Earle of Manchestor.”

An Crouch also had three husbands—“Ro: Wyncott, 1 Ralph Hare : 2 Lord Mountague of Boughton 3^d. this last was in 1624.” Amongst the list of “Crissinige dayes in Cornhill Church” is “Elizabeth Freman 14 Aprill 1629.” On June 18th, 1646, “Mr W^m Mountague was married to M^s Eliz: ffreman ;” later is the entry of this lady’s death :

“Elizabeth Mountague at London y^e 16 June 1647.”

Mr. William Freman and Elizabeth Crowch had a son Ralph, born in 1600, and married to Mary Hewytt in 1626, and their son Ralph, born in 1627, was member for the county of Hertfordshire, followed by his son, Ralph Freman, jun

Sir Ralph Freman, husband of Joan Crowch, one year Lord Mayor of London,* “who entertained the King and Queen (Charles I. and Henrietta Maria) at Merchant Taylor’s Hall, ‘with all the grand masquers of the Inns of Court in glorious apparel,’” was uncle to Ralph Freman, M.P., owner of Aspenden, who in 1643 took the part of young Seth Ward, the Royalist, who had been educated at the Free School of Buntingford, and having incurred the displeasure of the Parliamentarians for writing against the Covenant, was imprisoned. On his release, Ralph Freman took him under his protection, and entertained

* *Herts during the Civil War.* By Kingston.

him at Aspenden. Seth lived to become Bishop of Salisbury, and at his death left money in charity at Aspenden.

We have taken the dates on which the Fremans and Cæsars were members of Parliament for Hertfordshire from the Parliamentary returns of those years.

“Sir Charles Cæsar Kn^t of Bennington. M.P. for Hertford borough.

“Thomas Pope Blount Esq. for St Albans borough. 1678-9.

“Sir Charles Cæsar. M.P. for Hertford county.

“Sir Thomas Pope Blount Bar^t M.P. for St Albans borough. 1680-1.

“Ralph Freman, Esq. M.P. for Hertford county. 1685.

“Sir Thomas Pope Blount Bar^t and Sir Charles Cæsar Kn^t M.Ps. for Hertford county. 1688-9.

“Sir Thomas Pope Blount Bar^t and Ralph Freman Esq^r M.Ps. for Hertford county. 1689-90.

“Sir Thomas Pope Blount Bar^t M.P. for Hertford county. 1695.

“Ralph Freman J^{nr} Esq^r M.P. for Hertford county *vice* Sir Thomas Pope Blount deceased. 1697.”

Ralph Freman, jun., continued to be M.P. for the county, whilst in 1700 Charles Cæsar, Esq., became member for the borough until 1708, when he resigned on appointment “to an office of profit by the Crown,” but was re-elected in 1711 to 1714. Ralph Freman, jun., Esq., remained member for the county of Hertford until 1727, having been elected in every Parliament over a period of 30 years. He was succeeded as M.P. for the county by Charles Cæsar, Esq.

This Charles Cæsar was the eldest son of Sir Charles Cæsar, the brother of Dame Jane Blount, whose great-grandfather was Sir Julius. He was born Nov. 21st,

1673, represented the County of Hertford in the Parliaments of 1728 and 1736, and was buried at Benington on April 5th, 1741. He married Mary, younger daughter of Ralph Freman, of Aspenden, on Nov. 24th, 1702. This lady had a fortune of £500. She died and was buried at Benington July 12th, 1741.

“1642—1643.

“The counties of Hertford, Cambridge, Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, in the Eastern Counties Association, are specially mentioned in May's *History of the Long Parliament* as being kept from the beginning ‘without any great combustion,’ and it is added that ‘This great happiness of peace and quiet that they enjoyed may be supposed to flow from the unanimity of their affections. There was as much unanimity of opinion and affection in those counties among the people in general as was to be found in any part of England, but it was especially among the common people.’

“He adds, however, that it was certain that many of the chief gentry in these counties ‘bended in their affections to the King's Commission of Array;’ but as the freeholders and yeomen in general adhered to the Parliament, those gentlemen who attempted to draw forces together or provide arms for the King ‘were soon curbed and all their endeavours crushed at the beginning by those of the other side; especially by the great wisdom and indefatigable industry of Master Oliver Cromwell.’ Certainly the counties of Hertford and Bedford, and to some extent Cambridge, could hardly claim all the immunity from strife which is indicated by the foregoing. To carry on their share of the War successfully, the organisation of means and resources became a first necessity. The King had to rely upon what could be done by his Commissions of Array, entrusted in Hertfordshire to the Royalist leaders. . . . On the other hand, Parliament had an organisation almost ready to hand, which was capable of being made immensely superior. Primarily, Parliament, by a bold stroke, brought itself in touch with the lieutenancy of the county, and made use of the members for the county, but a more representative body soon became necessary to discharge the military and civil functions of raising soldiers and assessing the inhabitants in levying contributions, while

to this had to be added later another function of sequestrating the estates of 'delinquents,' or Royalists in arms for the King. For these three separate functions three Committees were appointed, and upon these Committees many of the leading Hertfordshire families of the time were represented. As many of the same names occur on each of the Committees, the following list may be considered to fairly represent the Council of War for the County of Hertford :—

Atkins, Edward, Esq. sergeant-at-law	Mayor of Hertford for the time being.
Barker, Gabriel Esq.	Mead Thos. gent.
Cecil, Robert. Esq.	Mewtys, Henry Esq.
Combes, Toby.	Morton Gravely Esq.
Cranborne. Lord Viscount.	Pemberton John Esq.
Dacres, Sir Thomas, Kn ^t	Pemberton Ralph Esq.
Faircloth, Litton Esq.	Porter Richard Esq.
Freman, Ralph Esq.	Priestly Wm. Esq.
Garrard, Sir John Bar ^t	Puller Isaac, gent.
Harrison Sir John	Reed Sir John Bar ^t
Heydon John Esq.	Robotham John Esq.
Humbertson John Sen. gent.	Sadler Thomas Esq.
Jennings Richard Esq.	Scroggs John Esq.
King Dr John	Tooke Thomas Esq.
Leman William Esq.	John Tooke Esq.
Litton Rowland Esq.	Washington Adam Esq.
Litton Sir William. Kn ^t	Wilde Alexander Esq.
Lucy Sir Richard, Kn ^t	Wingate. Edward Esq.
Marsh, John gent ^t	Witlewrong Sir John Kn ^t
Mayor of St Albans for the time being.	

"For the Grand Committee sitting at Cambridge, members of the Herts Committee had to go there to reside in their turn of 14 days each, with members of the Committees of the other counties. It was an anxious time for the associated counties, for, says the order appointing the above Committee, 'The Earl of Newcastle, with his whole army, since the surrender of Gainsborough is marching towards and ready to fall upon the associated counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Cambridge, Hertford, and Huntingdon.' On this Central Committee at Cambridge, of which at present

Oliver Cromwell, the honourable member for Cambridge, is a member and controlling spirit, the first Hertfordshire delegates to take their turn of service were Henry Mewtys, of Gorhambury, and Ralph Freman of Aspenden.”*

In *The Historical Antiquities of Hertfordshire*, by Sir Henry Chauncy, is given an account of the Fremans, and he tells how the Manor of Aspenden was bought by the brothers William and Ralph Freman, both merchants in London, who resided together Anno 1610, 8 Ja. I.

“Which William married Elizabeth the widow of Matthew Flyer of London, merchant, and eldest daughter of John Crouch of Corny Bury, by whom he had issue Ralph, Joan the wife of Thomas Soame Esq; and Dame Elizabeth, the wife of Sir Samuel Luke K^t; but Ralph Freman, the younger brother of William having no issue male, both brothers agreed to settle this Mannor on William and Ralph his son, and his heirs, to perpetuate their name: and William dyed on the 23^d day of August, Anno 1623, 21 Jac. I. and was buried in the parish church of St Michael, Cornhill in London, leaving Ralph his son and heir; and in the same year Ralph Freman the younger brother of William, was elected the first Sheriff in London. And Anno. 1633. 9 Car. I Lord-Mayor of that City. About the 10th day of January in the same year, he invited the King and Queen, and all the maskers of the Inns of Court, to a banquet, who, clothed in rich and glorious apparel, attended in a most solemn and splendid parade, from the Court to Merchant-Taylors Hall in the city of London.

“The first that marched were twenty footmen in scarlet liveries, with silver lace, each one having his sword by his side, a battone in one hand, and a torch lighted in his other; these were the Marshal’s men, who cleared the streets, made way, and waited on the Marshal; after, and sometimes in the midst of them, came Mr. Darrel, the Marshal: He was an extraordinary proper gentleman of Lincolns-Inn, mounted upon one of the King’s best horses, and richest saddles; his own habit was exceeding rich and glorious; his horsemanship very gallant, and besides his footmen, he had two lacquies who carried torches by him and a page his cloak: The King knighted him for his brave deportment.

* *Vide Herts during the Civil War.* By Kingston.

“ After followed one hundred gentlemen of the Inns of Court, five and twenty chosen out of each house, of the most proper and handsome young gentlemen of the Societies, every one gallantly mounted on the best horses, and with the best furniture that the stables of the King and all the noblemen in town would afford. Every one of these gentlemen were attired in very rich cloaths, cover'd with gold and silver lace, had a page and two lacquies, waiting on him in his livery by his horseside ; the lacquies carried Torches and the pages their masters cloaks, the richness of their apparel and furniture glittering by the light of a multitude of torches attending on them, with the motion and stirring of their mettled horses ; and the many and various gay liveries of their servants, but especially the personal beauty and gallantry of the handsome young gentlemen, made the most glorious and splendid Shew that ever was beheld in England. These horsemen had for their musick about a dozen of the best Trumpeters in their liveries sounding before them ; after whom came the Antimaskers, representing cripples and beggars on the poorest leanest jades the dirt-carts could afford, who had their musick of keys and tongs, and the like snapping, and yet playing in a consort before them ; the variety and change from such noble musick and gallant horses as went before, unto the proper musick and pitiful horses of these cripples made the greater divertisement.

“ Next came men on horseback, playing on Pipes, whistles, and instruments sounding notes like those of birds of all sorts, in excellent consort. Then the Antimasque of birds followed : this was an owl in an ivy bush, with many several sorts of other birds in a great flock gazing upon the owl. These were little boys put into covers of the shapes of those birds rarely fitted, and sitting on small horses, with footmen going by them, carrying torches, in their hands, and others to look unto the children, which was very pleasant to the spectators.

“ Other musicians on horseback followed this Antimasque, playing upon bagpipes, hornpipes, and such kind of northern musick, speaking the succeeding Antimasque of Projectors to be of the Scotch and Northern quarters ; these had many footmen with torches waiting on them.

“ First in this Antimasque rode a fellow upon a little horse, with a great bit in his mouth, and another upon his head, also headstall and reins fastened : this signify'd a projector, who begg'd a patent

that none in the Kingdom might ride their horses with such bits, but such as they should buy of him.

“After him came another fellow with a bunch of carrots upon his fist ; describing a projector, who begg’d a patent of monopoly, as the first inventor of the art to fat capons with carrots ; and that none but himself might make use of that invention, and have the privilege of fourteen years, according to the statute.

“Several other projectors were personated in like manner in this Antimasque, which were the more acceptable to the spectators, for that they represented to the King the unfitness and ridiculousness of these projects against the law.

“After this and the other Antimasques (which are here omitted) were past, there came six of the chief musicians on horseback, upon footclothes, and in the habits of heathen priests, and footmen carrying torches by them. Then an open large chariot followed these musicians, drawn with six brave horses, with large plumes of feathers on their heads and buttocks ; the coachman and postilion in rich antick liveries. There were above a dozen persons in several habits of the gods and goddesses sitting in the chariot, and many footmen by them on all sides bearing torches.

“Six more of the musicians followed this chariot on horseback, habited with footclothes, and attended with torches as the former were.

“Then came another large open chariot like the former, drawn with six gallant horses, set forth with feathers, liveries, and torches, as the others had, in which were about a dozen musicians in like habit as those in the first chariot, but all with some variety or distinction.

“These going immediately next before the grand masquers chariots, play’d upon excellent and loud musick all the way as they went.

“Then six more musicians on footclothes followed this chariot with horses and attended as the other. After them came the first chariot of the grand Masquers, which was not so large as those that went before, but most curiously framed, carved, and painted with exquisite art for this very purpose : the form was after that of the Roman Triumphant Chariots, as near as could be made by some old prints and pictures of them ; the seats in it were made of an oval form in the back end of the chariot, so that there was no precedence in them, and the faces of all that sate in it might be seen together.

“The colours of the first chariot were silver and crimson, given by the lot to Gray’s Inn, the chariot and the very wheels were richly painted all over with the same colours, and the carved work of it was as curious for that art ; it made a stately shew, drawn by four horses all on breast, covered to their heels all over with cloth of tissue, of the colours of crimson and silver, with plumes of white feathers on their heads and buttocks ; the coachman’s cap and feather, his long coat, and very whip and cushion, were of the same stuff and colour : in this chariot sate the four grand maskers of Gray’s Inn, their habits, doublets, trunkhose, and caps of most rich cloth of tissue, and wrought as thick with silver spangles as they could be placed, large white silk-stockings to their trunk-hose and rich sprigs in their caps, themselves proper and beautiful young gentlemen.

“On each side of the chariot were four footmen in liveries, of the colour of the chariot, carrying huge flamboyons in their hands, which with the torches gave such a lustre to the paintings, spangles, and habits, that hardly any thing could be invented to appear more glorious.

“Six more musicians on footclothes, in the like habits, followed this chariot ; after whom came the second chariot, which by lot fell to the Middle-Temple, and differ’d from the former only in colours, which were silver and blue ; the chariot and horses were cover’d and deck’d with cloth of tissue, of blue and silver ; in this chariot were the four grand masquers of the Middle-Temple, in the same habits as the former masquers were, and with the like attendance, torches, and flamboyons with the former.

“The third and fourth chariots followed after these, and six musicians between each chariot, habited on footclothes and horses as before, both the chariots of the same form and like carving and painting, differing only in the colours ; in the third rode the Grand Masquers of the Inner-Temple ; and in the other those of Lincolns-Inn, according to their several lots.

“The habits of all the Grand-Masquers were the same, their persons most handsome and lovely ; their equipage so full of state, and height of gallantry, that it was never out done by any representation mention’d in former stories.

“The torches and huge flaming flamboyons, born by the sides of each chariot, made it seem lightsome as at noon-day, but more glittering, and gave a full and clear light to all the streets and

windows as they passed by. The march was slow, in regard of the great number, but more interrupted by the multitude of spectators in the streets, besides the windows unwilling to part from so glorious a spectacle.

“The King and Queen stood at a window, looking into the street to see the masque pass by, and when all were gone, they, with all their noble train, came to the hall, where the masque began, and was incomparably performed in the dancing, speeches, musick, and scenes; the dances, figures, properties, the voices, instruments, songs, aires, composures; the words and actions were all of them exact, and none of them failed in their parts; and the scenes were most curious and costly.

“The Queen did the honour to some of the Masquers to dance with them, and did judge them as good dancers as ever she saw, and the great ladies were very free and civil in dancing with all the masquers, as they were taken out by them.

“Thus they continu’d in their sports until it was almost morning; then the Lord-Mayor entertain’d the King and Queen, the Lords and Ladies, and the masquers, and Inns of Court gentlemen with a noble and stately banquet; and after that was dispersed, every one departed to their homes.

“This gave great satisfaction to their Majesties, and no less to the citizens, especially those of the younger sort, and the female sex; it redounded much to the great honour of Sir Ralph Freman, the then Lord-Mayor of London; but shortly after he died, leaving issue only one daughter, Jane, who married Sir George Sands of Lees-Court in Kent, Bar^t since created Earl of Feversham.

“Upon the death of William, the elder brother, this Mannor descended according to the settlement, to Ralph his only son, who married Mary, daughter to Sir William Hewyt, K^t by whom he had issue seven sons, Ralph, William, Thomas, Henry, John, Charles, Robert; and five daughters, Elizabeth, married to the Honourable William Mountague, Esq younger son of Edward Lord Mountague of Boughton, and sometime Lord Chief Baron of His Majesty’s Court of Exchequer; Mary married to William Barbour of Adderbury, in the County of Oxford Esq, Anne married to George Pyke of Weldzed, in the County of Cambridge, Esq; Margaret died single; Susan married to Sir Peter Soame, of Heydon, in the County of Essex, Bar^t whereof Thomas, Henry, John, Charles, and Margaret, died in his life-time.

“Anno 1636. 12. Car. I. he was constituted High-Sheriff, was sometime Justice of the Peace for this County, and dyed on the 28th of July, 1665. He was of a middle stature, somewhat corpulent, stern in aspect, but pleasant in discourse; temperate in his diet, but hospitable in his house; grave in his deportment, yet merry in company. He had a general knowledge in the affairs of the country; and in his younger days manag’d them with great moderation and discretion; but in the time of rebellion did quit all publick employments, affected a retired life, and pleased himself with the conversation of his children.

“He was very kind to his relations, charitable to the Poor, and compassionate to the afflicted. He was very devout in all his acts of religion, till the pains of the stone and gout shorten’d his days; and the contemplations of Heaven made death more easie, and his passage to Glory more tollerable to him. He bare Azure three Lozenges Argent; Crest on a Wreath a Demi Lyon rampant gules charged on the Shoulder with a Lozenge Argent.

“Ralph Freeman his eldest son, succeeded him, is a Justice of the Peace, a Deputy-Lieutenant, and has served for this county in two Parliaments, one held in the year of 1 Jac. II. the other Anno 2 Will. & Mariæ: He married Elizabeth the youngest daughter of Sir John Aubery, of Llanthzithzed in the county of Glamorgan, Bar^t: by whom he has issue Ralph, William, Aubrey, and Elizabeth, married to Robert Elwis of Throcking, Esq; Margaret and Mary.”

The following extract is from the Freman’s notebook:—

“Ralph ffreman of Aspenden married to M^{ris} Eliz^a Catebey: the 15th of ffeby: 1699: one of y^e Coheirres of Tho^s Catesby of Northamptonshire.”

After which is written, by quite a different hand, evidently that of one of the parents:—

“Ralph Freman had Issue first twin boys Wm & Catesby, then a Daughter Stillborn. Then a Son Ralph. William Freman y^e eldest of y^e twins is a youth hopeful & grave in Temper, of a hot Constitution therefore eager in business, Love, Friendship. Catesby Freman y^e younger twin is a hopeful & brisk youth, of a mild & cool Constitution, fit for Company & for y^e Court.”

In the church at Aspenden are brasses and memorials to several of the family. The following is a list of their benefactions :—

“ William Freman, Esq, gave by will dated 1623 four shillings in bread weekly to the poor, out of the rent of the water mill.

“ Mrs. Elizabeth Freman, by will 1633, gave to ten poor people of this parish five pounds, per ann, to be paid by the Company of Haberdashers in London, to be disposed of according to the direction of the owner of Asseden Hall.

“ Mrs. Elizabeth Freman 1632 gave a silver chalice and cover gilt, for the communion.

“ Ralph Freman, Esq 1644 gave the treble bell.

“ Seth Ward, Bishop of Salisbury, gave to Ralph Freman Esq ; and Charles Crowch gent. Six hundred pounds to be laid out in land, the rent used for putting out three poor children apprentices yearly, two out of Abseden, and one out of Layston one year, and so on *vice versa*.

“ Mrs. Elizabeth Freman, wife of Ralph Freman, Esq ; 1690 gave a silver plate gilt, for the communion, and also an altar-piece, the creed, Lord's prayer, and commandments, painted on canvas, and in a black frame.

“ Ralph Freman Esq: of Hamels built a gallery at the west end of the church for young men and servants.

“ Mrs. Mary Cater, above 30 years servant in Mr. Freman's Family gave by will 1704 two hundred and ten pounds to be laid out in the purchase of lands, fee-farm rents, or rent-charge, for teaching as many poor children of this parish, as the owner of Absenden Hall, and the rector shall think fit, who are trustees. Upon her death a master was appointed, who teaches twelve. Ralph Freman Esq: cloaths them all, and hath built a house for a school.”*

In 1745, Mr. William Freman, of Hamels and Aspenden (the husband of Catherine Blount), gave the B treble bells to St. Mary's Church, near Hamels. In this church is also a large and fine monument to his brother, the Rev. Ralph Freman, D.D., of Hamels, and

* Salmon's *History of Herts.*

prebendary of Sarum, and Agnes his wife, both of whom died in July, 1772.

At Tyttenhanger are portraits of some of the members of the Freman family. Mistress Elizabeth Freman, who became Mrs. Montague, and Baron Montague, her husband, in his black silk gown. Mr. Ralph Freman, in a full suit of gold-coloured satin. He is pointing out of his picture. This is Mr. Ralph, jun., who was 30 years M.P. for Herts. His wife, Mrs. Ralph Freman, who was a Miss Catesby; a handsome, stout lady, evidently proud of her arm and hand. She gracefully holds a branch of orange blossoms. Mr. William Freman, the eldest son of Ralph, jun., in blue court dress with a sword, and next to him hangs the portrait of his wife Catherine, a neat, slight figure with a small shapely head. Without being strictly pretty, she has a most *piquante* appearance. She must have inherited her mother's taste. There is a simplicity and neatness about her person, and her hair is always dressed with becoming care. The Blounts as a rule were full-faced, with short square chins and rather colourless complexions; the Fremans of a distinctly different type. They had usually oval faces and high noses, florid colouring and marked eyebrows.

Mr. Catesby Freman, twin with William, is also there, handsome and pleasing, bearing a strong resemblance to his elder twin brother; also the youngest of the family and his wife, painted by Alan Ramsay. "The Rev. Ralph Freman, D.D., of Hamels, Rector of Aspenden and prebendary of Sarum" he became. His wife, Agnes, was a daughter of Pullar Forester, Esq., of Broadfields, in Kent. When William Freman died, this

Sale of Hamels
1772 (1772)
Hamels

do (17)

5-3-1772
Sale of Hamels
1772 (1/2)

gentleman was guardian to his daughter Catherine, who was a minor. He resided at Hamels.

*See name
1982 (13)*
Dressed in crimson velvet is Ralph Freman jun.'s sister Mary, wife of Charles Cæsar, who followed his brother-in-law Ralph as M.P. for the county.

*Taken in
Caledon
1981*
There are three pictures of William Freman's only child Catherine (the Hon. Mrs. Charles Yorke). The first, a full length by Alan Ramsay, was taken when she was about 15 years of age. It represents her dressed as a shepherdess with a lamb following her. The dress is of white satin. In one hand she holds a crook, the other is raised to the brim of her small pink-lined straw hat, as if to shade her eyes. In the second picture, a half-length, she is quite grown up. By the style of dress, it must have been painted after her marriage. It is by Hudson. She has a gown of blue satin, and her shoulder-knots are tied with strings of pearls. The third and last picture is by Sir Joshua Reynolds. She is walking in a wood. The trees cast a slight shadow across her face. The silk dress seems to rustle as she walks. She used to be drawing on her left-hand glove, but her son's wife, Elizabeth Lady Hardwicke, unfortunately took a fancy that she could not bear to see a woman everlastingly pulling at her glove, she said; it made her feel uncomfortable, and so she had the glove painted out. This gives the appearance of an unfinished hand. In all these pictures Catherine's dress is most highly finished, not a lace or a ribbon out of place; though each style is different, they could all three be taken as perfect models. She must have spent much time and trouble on her toilette, but the result is success-



*Catherine Freman (Honble. Mrs. Charles Yorke).
By Sir Alan Ramsay, P.R.A.*

ful. Next to this last portrait of her is one of her husband, Charles Yorke, painted when he was Attorney-General. Spite made Fox exaggerate when he remarked—"Yorke was ugly when alive, how did he look when dead?" for though the features are heavy, the face is too intelligent, the eyes too honest and bright, ever to have been ugly.

Mrs. William Freman was sometimes called Catharina, no doubt to distinguish her from her mother; she signed "Cath: Freman;" her mother signed herself "Kath: Blount," always using the K.

This is how the Blounts held Tyttenhanger, or "the Estate at Ridge," as it was sometimes called. It was leased for 10 years, to the possessor and his heirs, "on Request made, on Payment of Fees, for a certain Rent, but without any Fine, at the End of the said Term to renew the Lease upon like Request &c. &c, and so on from 10 to 10 years, and the Lease was accordingly granted and regularly renewed until the year 1759, when we granted it to Catharina Freman Widow of Tittenhanger, Herts." The extract is taken from a letter written to Philip Yorke, dated Trin. Col. Oxon, 1781. Since 1759 the estate has paid the yearly sum of £30 2s. od. to Trinity College.

To show the great care ladies in those days took of their furniture, we give a few items copied from Mrs. William Freman's accounts for 1760-1 :—

"20 mahogany chairs stuff'd up wth the best curl'd hair in fine Scotch cloth, jacks, canvas, girt-web etc £ 25 0 0.

"two Elbow Chairs to match D^o £3 16 0.

"Sewing silk, thread, silk cord, jacks etc for the chairs, £1 2 0.

“Covering and brass nailing 20 chairs and 2 elbow D^o £6 2 0.

“18½ y^{ds} of fine crimson Searge for the backs of the chairs . . .

“20 y^{ds} of crimson Lucasking for scarves for d^o £4 10 0.

“7,700 of Princes Metal Nails for D^o £5 7 0.”

She now ordered 28 yards of crimson and white check, and had cases made to cover her chairs, and so they were hid away from view. Could these be the same chairs that the agent referred to, years afterwards, when writing to her grandson, Philip Yorke—“The furniture turned out are chiefly broken chairs that will not fetch 5s.”?

After the chairs comes an account of “green tammy” for her green damask curtains, and “crimson tammy to line five pair of crimson silk Damask Window Curtains £6 0 0.”

“104 y^{ds} of the best crimson silk cover’d lace £1 14 8.”

One bed she took great pains with—“altering the Val^s covering the Corniches and making a new Testor 0 7 6.

“6½ y^{ds} of crimson Persian for the Testor 0 15 7½.

“32 y^{ds} of crimson cheney to cover the doors in the Tapisstry room £2 10 8.

“Paid for scowering and dipping 28 y^{ds} of green silk Damask £0 14 0.”

This green silk was made up into bed curtains.

“A Sconce glass in a gilt frame £2 2 0.”

There are several accounts of “Scowerings and dippings.” One pair of “fine Blanketts” cost £2 18 0.

She bought yellow mohair for one bed lined with yellow tammy.

Labour seems to have been well paid. "A man for hanging 13 pieces of paper £0 13 0."

"2 men one day each in packing up goods £0 8 2.

"2 men 8 days work each in papering a room at Tittenhanger £2 8 0."

The whole of her upholsterer's bill for Tittenhanger, and her house in London for 2 years, came to £297.

The first record we have of the Yorke family is in 1380 of a John Yorke. He married Claricia, widow of Richard de Windsor. They had a son, John, born in 1404, who held lands in West Hagborn, Berks. He died in 1425, and was buried in the north aisle of the church at East Hagborn. There is a genealogical table of the Yorkes from these dates down to Philip Yorke, a solicitor of Dover (whose wife, Elizabeth Gibbon, was sister to the ancestor of the historian). Their son Philip became Lord High Chancellor and 1st Earl of Hardwicke; he was born in 1690, "of the Middle Temple Esq^{re} Solicitor Gen^l to King George I. knighted 7th July, 1720."

His wife was "Margaret, daughter of Charles Cocks of Castle Ditch C^o Hereford, by Mary his wife sister and co-heir of John Lord Somers Lord High Chancellor of England, married 9th May 1719. died 10 Sep^r 1761." His second son Charles, appointed Solicitor-General in November, 1756, Attorney-General in 1761, and Lord High Chancellor in 1770, died 30th January, 1770, and was buried at Wimpole. He had married Catherine, only daughter of William Freman, of Hamels and Aspenden, in the county of Hertford, 19th May, 1755. She died 10th July, 1759, and was buried at Wimpole,

in Cambridgeshire. He had issue by Catherine Freman one son and two daughters—

1. Philip, born 1757.

1. Margaret, died in childhood.

2. Catherine, died in childhood.

He married, secondly, 30th December, 1762, Agneta, daughter of Henry Johnston, Esq., of Great Berkhamstead, and by this lady had issue two sons and one daughter—

1. Charles Philip, born 1764.

2. Joseph Sydney, born 1768.*

1. Caroline, married to the Earl of St. Germain.

We can only venture to give an outline of Charles Yorke's life. It has been told so much better than we can tell it. From boyhood, he had shown himself to be possessed of remarkable gifts as a writer and speaker. He had a powerful intellect and a just and noble mind. In his family life at home he was beloved, his kind nature drew towards him all those who came within its influence. His brilliant career came so suddenly to a close. Urged by George III. into accepting the office of Lord Chancellor—an honour which within a week previously he had positively declined, and having given his word to his brother, Lord Hardwicke, to that effect—in one weak moment, full of loyalty to his King, he acted against his better judgment and accepted the office. Then there fell on him the violent reproaches of his elder brother and the indignation of his party. He

* On the death of Philip, 3rd Earl of Hardwicke, his nephew, Charles Philip, the late Earl of Hardwicke, succeeded to the title and Wimpole estate. He was the eldest son of Admiral Sir Joseph Sydney Yorke, K.C.B. Sir Joseph was drowned in the Solent, his ship having been struck by lightning.

went home broken-hearted, and three days afterwards he died. For a man of his strength of character, the mental trial he passed through in those few hours must have been terrible.

“As he was never installed in Westminster Hall, nor ever sat in the Court of Chancery, there is no entry respecting him as Chancellor to be found in the Close Roll, or in the records of the Crown Office ; but the following minute appears in the books of the Privy Council :—

“ ‘At the Court at the Queen’s House, the 17th of January, 1770.

“ ‘Present, the King’s Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

“ ‘His Majesty in Council was this day graciously pleased to deliver the Great Seal to the Right Honourable Charles Yorke, Esq^{re}, who was thereupon, by his Majesty’s command, sworn of his Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council, and likewise Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, and accordingly took his place at the board.’

“ ‘At the same time a warrant was signed by the King for a patent raising him to the peerage, by the title of Baron Morden of Morden, in the County of Cambridge.

“ ‘As soon as the council was over, Lord Chancellor Charles Yorke, carrying away the Great Seal with him in his carriage, drove to Lord Rockingham’s, to communicate to him what he had done. It so happened that Lord Rockingham, Lord Hardwicke, and the other leaders of the Opposition were then holding a meeting to concert measures against the Government. He was introduced to them, and unfolded his tale. We are told that it was received with a burst of indignation, and that all present upbraided him for a breach of honour.

“ ‘He instantly left them, and went home, his mind sorely harassed with the severity of their reproaches.

“ ‘It was announced that very evening that he was dangerously ill, and at five o’clock in the evening of Saturday, the 30th January, three days after he had been sworn in Chancellor, he was no more. His patent of nobility had been made out, and was found in the room in which he died ; but the Great Seal had not been affixed to it, so that the title did not descend to his heirs

“His last moments gave Lord Hardwicke an occasion of expressing his nice sense of honour and refined delicacy. The Seals, and the patent creating him Baron Morden, were on a table in the apartment of the dying Chancellor. ‘What hinders,’ said one of his friends, ‘the Great Seal being put to this patent, whilst his Lordship yet lives?’ ‘I forbid it!’ said his noble brother; ‘never shall it be said of one of our family that he obtained a peerage under the least suspicion of a dishonourable practice.’”*

Dying so suddenly, one would suppose that some disclosures might have appeared privately—some unburnt letter or paper left to his family that could tell a tale and clear up a mystery. There are none at Tyttenhanger of that nature, but what he has left speaks in his favour, and those were happy days for the old place when he married Catherine Freman, and the little estate, which descended to her son Philip, and which the later Blounts had somewhat neglected, seemed to prosper under his management.

Amongst her treasures, his grand-daughter, Catherine Freman, Lady Caledon, had carefully kept and put away a few of his letters referring to his marriage and family; they are very simple. Dr. Ralph Freman, his wife’s uncle, to whom the letters are written, had, since the death of his brother William, been almost as a father to young Catherine.

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

“Tuesday. May 13

1755.

“DEAR SIR

“I take the liberty of troubling you, (as you allowed me to do) on a day being agreed and fixed. I hope it will not be disagreeable to you; but by reason of Lord Chancellor’s Holidays,

* *Vide Lives of the Lord Chancellors.* By Lord Campbell.

and impatience to enjoy the air and recess of the Country, in the Whitsun week, it could not conveniently be postponed later ; and it has been owing to the business of the Term, that it could not be appointed earlier. The day proposed is the Monday, after Whitsunday. Now the request, which I have to make, is this ; that you will be so good as to come to Town on Saturday, and meet Lord Chancellor and the Trustees at Mrs. Freman's* that evening, to execute the settlement. And on Monday morning. I must beg the favour of you to perform the office of a friend and a Father at St George's church. I am sensible, this will keep you in Town upon Whitsunday, which I fear will not be agreeable to you ; and prevent your officiating at your own Church, as I know you chuse to do ; but I hope your goodness and indulgence will pardon me for troubling you at this time. If it be postponed later it will deprive L^d Chancellor of His holidays in the Country, which at best are very short ; and it could not be earlier from a variety of those little accidents, which cross one every day, in the way to happiness.

"I hope Mrs. Freman, and you are both well. I beg you will present my compliments to her and believe me, with the greatest Truth and respect, Dear Sir.

"Your obliged

& faithful humble Serv^t

"C. YORKE."

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

"Thursday Night.

May 29

"DEAR SIR,

"I trouble you with a Line, by L^d Chancellor's desire, to enclose an invitation to you & Mrs. Freman to dine with him at Powis House, on Monday next, if you will do him the favour. It is the first opportunity, which L^d Chancellor has had, of inviting us, since the day, when you were so kind, as to be with us at St George's church. Let me tell you at the same time, with great frankness, that the message is meant to lay you & Mrs. Freman under no difficulty ; & Lord Chancellor will very easily understand if you do not chuse to come, or find it quite convenient, that you think the distance is rated too great for a dining visit.

* Mrs. William Freman.

"He bids me add, at the same time, that whenever you & Mrs. Freman shall come to Town, he & Ly. Hardwicke will always be glad to see you, & hope for the honour of seeing you at dinner at Powis House, at this or any other opportunity, which may be more agreeable to you.

"In haste, Dear Sir
with utmost respect

"Your oblig^d &
faithful

"C. YORKE.

"Mrs. Y. is very well, & writes by this post to Mrs. Freman, to whom I beg you will present my compliments."

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

"Saturday, July 5, 1755.

"DEAR SIR

"I am extremely obliged by Your most friendly letters, and your kind present of Venison. The hurry in which I live, during the attendance in Chancery, makes me a very indifferent correspondent; otherwise I had writ to You before, concerning the Release, and the Transaction to place out the Trust money, upon a Mortgage of L^d Rockingham's Estate in Yorkshire; a security in more respects, than I can now explain to you, very desirable. As to the Release, Filmer, as Council for Mrs. Yorke made some small alterations, of accuracy, in the form of the Draught, but not very material, one way or another, whether it had stood precisely, as Your agent prepared it, or as ours varied it. The substance remains the same. As to the Mortgage, it is so far advanced, as that the writings went last Thursday, into Yorkshire, to be executed by the Marquis of Rockingham, and Mr. Wortley (whose incumbrance is to be paid off); after this, they are to be registered, and then transmitted to London. They are expected here again next Thursday. Now I would propose, that Your money and mine should be ready in Bank notes, upon the Wednesday following, to be paid to the proper hands, for L^d Rockingham and the present Mortgagees, who are to be paid off; that on the same day, Yourself and the other Trustees, & I may meet to execute the Counterpart of the Mortgage, the Declaration of Trust to be indorsed upon the marriage settlement,

the Releases, and one or two other short instruments, which will be necessary on the occasion. For myself, I propose to sell out between 4 & 5000^l Annuities, and to call in some other moneys, which are due to me, in order to raise the eleven thousand pounds, which I must advance. I intend to write to Mr. Butler, assoon as I learn what day will be eligible to you, by the return of the post. If you think, the money which you want will be ready, by next Wednesday se'nnight, the whole affair may be transacted on that day, & perhaps not bring you up to Town, before the Monday immediately preceding. If any other day will be more convenient to you, be so kind as to let me know, and I will accomodate things to it.

“I had the pleasure of drinking your health yesterday, with some friends, over part of your Venison ; which is excellent.

“Excuse the haste in which I write, & believe me, ever, Dear Sir, with the greatest Truth and respect,

“Your obliged
& faithful humble
Serv^t

“C. YORKE.

“Mrs. Yorke joins with me in compliments to yourself & Mrs. Freman.”

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

“Tues^d July 8th 1755.

“DEAR SIR,

“I have received the favour of Your very kind Letter this afternoon, but will not write to Mr. Butler, till I hear from you again. It would give me uneasiness, if you should come to Town, at a time inconvenient to you, or be prest at all for the payment of the portion ; which Your friendship will do me the justice to believe is far from my intention. To morrow morning, I will enquire particularly at what time and in what manner you can sell out with the most convenience. The same enquiry will be of use to myself, because I must sell out near 5000^l Stock & Annuities, in order to raise one part, of what I am to advance ; the rest I must call in at some disadvantage, upon a Mortgage. When I am fully informed, which will be time enough to write on Thursday, You shall hear by that night's post.

“As to the proving of the Releases, I believe your Solicitor mistook Mr. Filmer’s opinion; for (as I understand) he had no objection to the leaving Mr. Gardiner’s Release as general, as it was prepared, he being a purchasor for valuable consideration. And as to the alterations, which Mr. Filmer suggested, in the formal wording of Your release, I thought them of so little consequence to Mrs. Yorke, that I should have desired the instrument might rest, as he found it, if I had not been of opinion, that they were of as little consequence to you. The Reason he gave for the alteration was the reason of a man of business, who governs himself by general rules of practice;—that sometimes he had seen old Releases, with general words, the effect of which had not been considered, set up, after a great length of time, and the death of all the parties to the Deeds, for a purpose, contrary to their real intention. And therefore it was best to adapt them to the particular demand in question. This I took to be Mr. Filmer’s way of thinking, of no moment, in the present case, but right upon a general principle; and acting for Mrs. Yorke, (under the two legal disabilities of Infancy and marriage) I could not do otherwise, than proceed by a strict punctilious rule; otherwise I am sure, you will do me the justice to believe, that I lay no weight upon it, and am of opinion, that whether the release be worded, as it stood originally, or as it stands now, it is equally indifferent to us both. With respect to Mr. Gardiner, Your agent certainly mistakes; for the intent was to leave the draught relating to his purchase, very nearly, as it was delivered to my agents.

I will trouble you again on Thursday, after which I will hope to hear from you again. I hope Mrs. Freman and yourself continue perfectly well. I am, Dear Sir, with the truest sense of your goodness, and favourable regard to me,

“Your obliged & faithful
humble serv^t

“C. YORKE.”

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

“Thursday, July 10, 1755.

“DEAR SIR,

“Upon enquiry, I find, that it was owing to a mistake of Mr. Perkins, who misunderstood Mr. Filmer’s opinion and directions, that the draught of Mr. Gardiner’s Release was varied,

in the manner which you mention. The Truth is, it is of very little consequence, to any of us, one way or another, whether it be worded in this or that form, provided the Estate be discharged from the portion, as there can never arise any other demand upon it ; but upon receiving your letter, I took the first opportunity of speaking to Mr. Perkins, and the mistake is set right. The more material enquiry is, as to your selling out the S. S. Annuities. It is something unlucky for us all, that the apprehensions of a War keep the stocks low ; and it seems, the Books of the W. Ann^s are shut, but they may be opened for a private transfer. I shall give directions to-morrow for selling out what I have which consists of S. S. Stocks, & Bank Annuities, and pay the money into S^r R^d Hoare's, that it may be ready. As the sum, which you are to raise, is considerable, I understand upon talking with two or three persons intelligent on the funds, that it will probably take up two or three days to enable you to part with it, with less disadvantage ; and therefore, (if I might presume to advise) you would do well, either to employ some agent or Banker by letter of Attorney to sell out for you, or (which may help to procure the doing of it with more ease and exactness) come yourself on Monday for that purpose, and the money will be ready either by Wednesday, or before the end of the week, when we may meet and execute the Deeds. I will not write to Mr. Butler till Saturday. Mrs. Yorke's Duty attends you, and her Aunt ; to whom I beg leave to add my compliments, being always with the greatest Truth, Your obliged and obed^t humble serv^t

“C. YORKE.”

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

“Wednesday. Aug 20.

“DEAR SIR,

“I trouble you with this Letter by a servant, to acquaint you, that Lord Chancellor & Lady Hardwicke present their compliments to you, & Mrs. Freman, and will be very glad of the honour of seeing you at Wimple on Friday next. Dinner will be ready at 2 o'clock, or at any other time, which will be agreeable to you. They hope, that you will stay the evening, which will give you more leisure to walk about, and prevent your having the trouble of driving so long a journey twice in the same day.

"Give me leave now to say a word for Mrs. Yorke and myself; and to thank you very particularly for your goodness to us during our visit at Hamels.

"It was in every respect so agreeable, that I am afraid you have drawn yourself into the danger & inconvenience of having it repeated, perhaps too often. But I will not trouble you with expressing in words my sense of the civilities, which you have continually shown me before and since my marriage. The respect and affection, which the obligations conferred on us both (and particularly the kindness shown to Mrs Yorke) have raised in me, can be fully exprest only in the course of my Life and actions. I beg, our compliments may be made acceptable to Mrs. Freman, for whose polite and obliging reception of us, we owe many acknowledgments.

"Excuse the haste in which I write and believe me ever, Dear Sir, with the greatest Truth and regard

"Your obliged

& affectionate humble Serv^t

"C. YORKE."

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

"Tuesday, Sept^r 16.

Wimple.

"DEAR SIR

"Mrs. Yorke and I propose to set out for London to morrow after dinner from this place. If it be not inconvenient to you & Mrs. Freman, we will take a bed at Hamels, in our way, & leave you early on Thursday morning.

"This will give us both an opportunity of paying our respects to you once more, during the Vacation. I trouble you with this letter, because if you are at present full of company, or better engaged, I know you will be so kind, as to tell me so, without any ceremony.

"Mrs. Yorke presents her Duty to yourself & Mrs. Freman, to whom I beg you will give my compliments.

"I am always, Dear Sir, with the greatest respect,

"Your obliged

& faithful humble Serv^t

"C. YORKE."

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

“Sunday, Oct. 12, 1755.

“DEAR SIR,

“I cannot suffer my servants to call at Hamels, without repeating my acknowledgments, in Mrs. Yorke’s name and my own, for your goodness. After what you were pleased to say to me, when we both spent an evening with you, in the return from Wimple, it was certainly a respect due to you and to the generosity of your present to her, to have sent for it sooner, but I had no convenient opportunity, till now, Assoon as she comes to Town, I know she fully intends writing to you herself.

“The Rain was heavy, and the air very cold, after I left you yesterday. I find Lord Chancellor and Lady Hardwicke in perfect health. They have charged me with their compliments to you & Mrs. Freman; in which all the rest of the family join. About the middle of the week, I shall cross the country to Wrest,* and from thence to Acton, the beginning of the next; so that I shall hardly have another opportunity of seeing you till your return from Bath, which, I hope, will be thro’ London.

“I am dear Sir, with the greatest respect,

“Your most obliged
& faithful humble
Serv^t

“C. YORKE.”

Charles Yorke’s elder brother, Viscount Royston, had married the Earl of Breadalbane’s only daughter, Lady Jemima Campbell, who was created Baroness Lucas and Marchioness de Grey in her own right, being maternal grand-daughter of Henry de Grey, last Duke of Kent of that line.

Lord Royston, who afterwards became 2nd Earl of Hardwicke, had two daughters by this lady—Amabel, Countess de Grey in her own right, and Jemima, who married Lord Grantham.

* The residence of Lord Royston.

Lord Hardwicke died 16th May, 1796, without male issue, and Amabel Lady de Grey inherited Wrest; but the Hardwicke estates and title devolved upon Philip, his brother Charles' son.

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

“Oct 29.

“DEAR SIR

“Mr. Forrester is with me, whilst I write a Line, in answer to your obliging letter. Nothing could be more agreeable to me than to have it in my power to shew that attention to your recommendations & wishes, which you have a right to expect from me; but the fact is, Dr. Warburton has no thoughts of making a vacancy at Lincoln's Inn. If I had any thing of that sort to command, I need not say, that I should be glad to favour Mr Forrester, upon yours & Mrs. Freman's, and indeed upon his own account, as a young Gentleman of merit. Excuse haste and believe me

“always Yours,

“C. YORKE.

“Mine & Mrs. Y's compliments attend Mrs. Fr.”

The Hon. Charles Yorke to the Hon. Mrs. Charles Yorke.

“MY DEAREST LOVE,

“I return your draught, & approve it. The places altered are few. I rejoice to hear that you & the children are well. The work-bag I hope not to forget. Three pair of *Caroline Ducks* is a handsome present; especially as they will cost you a round price.

“I long to be with you, & will try to be with you; but don't expect me on Wednesday evening, beyond half an hour after night. For I travel prudently.

“Always, my dearest, yours

“C. Y.

“Sunday evening

Aug. 15.”

In 1759 Catherine Yorke nursed her little daughter in an attack of scarlet fever, which proved fatal to the

child. She herself sickened of the same illness, and died in a few days, on July 10th, aged 24.

She was the sole remaining heir of the families of Pope Blount and Freman.

“About this time Charles Yorke sustained a blow which long rendered tasteless all the applause with which his efforts were crowned. He lost the chosen partner of his fate whose participation of his good fortune gave it all its value. When a little recovered, he described his anguish, and the sacred source of his consolation, in a letter to his friend Warburton, which has unfortunately perished.”*

The following letter is from Charles Yorke's sister Elizabeth, who was married to Lord Anson, the famous Admiral†:—

“July the 10th.

“Oh Mr. Jenyns what a misfortune. Have you heard of the illness of our sweet Friend, our dear Mrs. Yorke? One of the sore throat Fevers, yet not thought in danger, nay thought to be much mended yesterday evening. Her poor little Girl had sunk under the disorder on Sunday; and last night a fatal change quite unexpectedly robbed us of the most amiable of Creatures—She I hope is happy, but all who knew her are left in such Affliction as can hardly be kept within bounds by the submission to necessity & Omnipotence. What can become of my poor Brother & her wretched Parent; we all feel too much to be of any use to either except to help them to grieve, and we are hardly intimate enough with poor Mrs. Freman even for that. I guess at what you will feel by myself—so may you of me, for nothing can exceed the Love I had for the most charming and engaging of Human Beings.

“I do not know if any body else writes to you—I do not think this Note a proper one—but I do not know what I do write—much less what I should write. Mrs. Jenyns knows I am much her Servant—I feel for her too highly.

* *Lives of the Lord Chancellors.* By Lord Campbell.

† Lord and Lady Anson had no children, and the barony became extinct. The Lord Chancellor Hardwicke's youngest daughter, Margaret, was the first wife of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart. She died without children.

"The poor little Boy* was moved to Acton upon the first apperance of this fatal disorder among the Servants with whom it began, & was well yesterday when he was heard of last :—The least unhappy of all who were connected with her because least sensible of his loss.

"Yours in the highest affliction,

"E. ANSON.

"Do not detest me if I am the first to give you this heart breaking news. I know you loved her so well that it is a melancholy indulgence to talk to you of her—most Lovely—most beloved ! I see her sweet Image."

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

"Tuesday night

"DEAR SIR,

"I thank you very much for your kind letter. It is full of that steady regard and generous friendship, which I have always experienced, from the first moment that I knew you. Your kind consent was (under God) a principal means of bestowing upon me the greatest blessing of my whole Life, and the loss of it, after so short enjoyment, is indeed the heaviest affliction, which could befall me. But I resign myself to the Will of that wise & good Being, who gives and who takes away, and always for the most gracious purposes. The separation of the dearest friends is for a short time ; and Religion (which administers the only true consolation) teaches us, that we may hope, with awe & modest Piety, to meet in another and a better State, where we never shall be divided more.

"Her amiable and artless manner ; her tender and disinterested affection ; her general benevolence & honest heart ; and her just way of thinking, improving itself by endeavouring to attain new instruction & further knowledge, from day to day ; crowned, with a native unaffected sense of Religion, which sank deep into her mind, without ostentation, and without disturbing morbidly the Duties or the cheerfulness of Life, endeared her to me beyond the weak power of words, and leave impressions, upon my memory, which heighten the severity of this Visitation from Providence, at

* Philip, afterwards 3rd Earl of Hardwicke, who inherited Tyttenhanger.

the same time that they strengthen me, to bear it, by reflecting (as I ought) with so much pleasure, on her excellent nature and Virtues.

“To you, dear Sir, her honoured uncle, I speak without reserve the sense of my heart. I will prove it all my Life by the truest and tenderest affection to the only pledge, which She has left me; and by the most inviolable Gratitude and regard to her mother and yourself, the friendly instruments of all my happiness, when you approved our marriage. Allow me still to claim a place in your kind esteem, and to profess myself, (what I must ever be), with the greatest fidelity and respect, Your most

obliged &

affectionate humble

Serv^t

“C. YORKE.

“my best compliments, wait on Mrs. Freman and Mrs Forrester.”

Mrs. William Freman never recovered the shock of her daughter's death. She survived her only four years.

A letter from the Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman gives an account of Mrs. William Freman's illness.

“Tuesday, Dec. 16, 1760.

“DEAR SIR,

“I have many thanks to return for your kind favour towards the end of my long Vacation. The sudden death of the late King, with the engagements of public business since that time, and the beginning of our usual course of private business in Westminster Hall, and attendance in different Courts, have prevented my troubling you with an answer. Some things I reserve, till I have the honour and happiness of seeing you.

“But what occasions my writing to you now, is the event of poor Mrs. Freman's illness. I chose to avoid the writing to you upon it, till I could speak with more certainty than at first, and trace out the Nature and progress of her disorder.

“In the beginning of October, she had a slight return of that Feaver and lowness, which, you know, she had repeatedly felt before, in the Autumn of 1759, and in the last Spring more severely; but for several months, during the last winter, and after the second Attack, during the last Summer & Autumn, till the end of September, she appeared to be perfectly free from it. Notwith-

standing the return in October, she continued so free from it in November, as to spend ten days alone at Tittenhanger, and to come back to London, in good spirits, and in apperance perfectly well ; However, it happened, about a fortnight ago, She was at Church in the Afternoon with Mrs. Tyrwhit, and was struck at once with something like a paralytic stroke ; so that, for two or three days, it seemed doubtful, whether she would survive it. By the advice of Dr. Taylor & Dr. Watson, and such Remedies as they thought fit to apply, She recovered entirely from that Stroke, in five or six days ; so as to have the use of her Limbs, and to gain some degree of sleep, strength, and articulation in speaking ; but accompanied with great wanderings of thought and great restlessness of mind and temper. Within this last week, She is (thank God) much better in every respect, as to her bodily health ; the Recovery of her mind seems slower ; yet the Physicians hope, that as She becomes calmer, and has more appetite to food, (which is restoring gradually) that her mind will gain more strength.

“ I will acquaint you further, with the progress of her illness, & any change in her situation, as it appears to me necessary ; and when I am enabled to judge or speak with any certainty. For my own part, I need not tell you, what agitation of mind, and pain I have felt, upon so affecting and so moving an occasion ; when I see a Lady, (to whom I owe so much affection & Duty for the unalterable kindness which is due from me to her Daughter) reduced to this distress, by the Visitation of Providence, after one melancholy event, which has poisoned Life to her ; and who notwithstanding all the struggles which she has sustained, and consolation which can be given, will not be comforted, and feels no happiness. The physicians have forbid me and any of her intimate friends from seeing her, till she is more recovered. I hope (with the Blessing of God) that she will recover perfectly ; otherwise, I see that a most painful attention & care will fall upon me, as her Son in Law, & the Father of her Grandson. In every event, your kind Advice, assistance, & support, both as a friend and a Relation, will be relied upon, by, dear Sir,

“ Your most obliged

& faithful & affectionate

“ C. YORKE.

“ P.S. My best compliments wait on Mrs. Freman. I hope Mrs. Forrester is well.”

The Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman.

“ Bloomsbury Square,
Aug. 18. 1761.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ I have delayed answering your very kind Letter of 26th July, in order to enable myself, the more exactly to acquaint you with poor Mrs. Freman’s health. She seems, within this last week, surprisingly recovered in her strength, memory, and recollection ; yet a little matter fatigues her attention and spirits, and her situation, tho’ it may continue thus some time, seems very precarious. Your affectionate & tender concern for her, & friendly regard to me, in the progress of every transaction, which related to her dearest Daughter or herself, must engage and bind me to you, with the strongest ties of Gratitude & Esteem

“ You are very kind in your invitation to Hamels. I will certainly wait on You ; but I am so loaded with cases, which remain to be answered, before I can stir from Bloomsbury, or at least from a large rambling House at Highgate, which I have taken within this month, that I cannot exactly say, when I can call upon you. In the mean time, do not trouble yourself abt assigning Mrs. Freman’s half-yearly payment, till I see you At present, we can do pretty well, and I have rid her of all the small entangled debts & demands, which amounted to so much money ; (tho’ two or three large ones remain.)

“ As you propose staying at Hamels till the middle of October, I will take care to find out by Message or Letter, when it may be convenient for you to see me, and give me an opportunity of paying my respects & compliments to you & Mrs. Freman, to whom I wish all happiness and health.

“ My little boy, after whom you enquire so obligingly, is (I think) just wise enough, upon being put in mind of it, to send his duty to you. I thank God, he is perfectly well. I have some thoughts of inoculating him this Autumn, but with fear & trembling.

“ I am ever, dear Sir,

Yours most faithfully

& affectionately,

“ C. YORKE.”

The following letter from the Hon. Charles Yorke to Dr. Ralph Freman was written at the time of his mother Lady Hardwicke's death, the wife of the Lord Chancellor Hardwicke :—

“DEAR SIR,

“I give you many thanks for Your kind Letter. The loss of my poor Mother, though in some degree prepared by her age & gradual decline, was very affecting to us all, particularly to L^d Hardwicke. She had gone through all the Duties of Life, in a superior manner; with a strong excellent understanding, great firmness, & humanity. She preserved her senses to the last, and died, without perturbation.

“The duty & attention which it has been incumbent upon me to show my Father, and my attendance upon him ever since, as well as for some time before, have prevented me from waiting upon you, as I intended, at Hamels; and I find, that it will now be impossible, before You set out upon Your expedition to Salisbury.

“After Your return, I shall hope to see You either in Town, or at Hamels.

“Mrs. Freman has been surprisingly well for six weeks, till within these few days, about the Equinox, when she had another slight Apoplectic fit. She is (thank God) considerably better; but these Shocks must greatly impair her Strength.

“In a Letter sometime since, You were so attentive as to mention the half yearly payment of her jointure, due at Midsummer. There are accounts to be discharged which will soon make that money convenient in her affairs. If it were paid in to Mr. Hoare's Shop, upon her account & to her use, I would give a Receipt for it, upon notice & having Mr. Hoare's Receipt to You transmitted to me. But all this may wait till the 5th of Nov^r or after, if more convenient to you.

“I am always, Dear Sir, with the greatest Truth & Respect,
Your

“Obliged & faithful
humble serv^t

“C. YORKE.

“Tuesday, Oct. 6. 1761.”

Lines by the Hon. Charles Yorke.

“To the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord Chancellor. Written in 1743.

“Amidst the Scenes, which Anxious cares infest,
Where prosperous Fortune smiles but to betray,
The Gentle Muse, by rude alarms opprest,
Has fear’d to follow, tho’ she mark’d thy way.

“In rural Shades she finds a peaceful joy ;
There pleas’d to trace thy steps, the sacred Grove,
Which shields thee from th’Autumnal heat’s annoy,
With Mirtles, Firs, Poetic Laurels wove,

“Receives her too : Keen shafts of Malice there
Fly not around, nor Faction’s threats appall ;
Thy praises only fill the vocal air ;
Virtues herself inspir’d, her heart enthral.

“Early she warn’d thee to disdain the Lure,
And from the Silken bands of Pleasure break ;
Nor daunted with pale Envy’s kiss, secure
She saw thee wrestle with the Crested Snake.

“Then thro’ the unbounded walk of Wisdom led
Her Son, to range the cultivated fields ;
Bad thee select, from every fertile bed,
Whate’er the various growth of Science Yields.

“What taught thy Eloquence with Strength to Shine ?
’Twas Nature manly Genius did impart ;
But ’twas the Muse, with Energy divine,
Who gave that Eloquence the Charms of Art ;

“Of Greece & Rome unlock’d the Learned Store ;
Whose steady Chiefs this arduous path pursu’d ;
To seek for Fame in brighter Virtue’s lore ;
For private honor in the publick good.

“Fir’d with the thought, Thou view’st the tempting Prize ;
Scarce pleas’d with Arts which but inform the Mind,
Plans more exalted fix thy Piercing Eyes,
To raise, Support, or regulate Mankind.

“Oppression’s chain, Chicane’s entangling Net,
Broken by thee, ’gainst right no more prevail ;
No more these foes to Peace the Weak beset :
Nor fraud, nor greatness turns the well pois’d Scale.

“But to what end such Talents, form’d to save
Thy Friend, thy Country, freed from just restraints,
If to some meaner aim thou stoop the Slave?
One drop envenom’d oft the Vessell taints.

“Of what avail, the Scyon rear’d with pain,
The hopefull blossom, or the ripening fruit,
The quick’ning Air, & warmth, & kindly rain,
If eating Canker waste the tender root ?

“Yet some strange weakness waits on ev’ry Age,
And with its dross Virtue’s pure Oar allays ;
With thee, each Virtue dwells thro’ ev’ry stage,
Without one weakness to impair thy Praise.

“The Youthfull Spirit, check’d by Elder Care ;
The Man’s ambition, yet nor vain nor bold ;
The sense of reverend Age, without its fear,
Or love of Indolence, or thirst of Gold.

“Thus fitted for the Forum or the Cell,
What Vows, what offering shall the Muses bring ?
Will tunefull songs stern Death’s approach repel ?
Can Lawrels guard thee from that Vultur’s wing ?

“But thou contemplat’st in the mild retreat,
With Awe & joy, to both by reason led,
Of Life serene, that Death prolongs the date,
Of Life unpleasing cuts the tedious thread.

“Yet e’er the Scene be clos’d, thy Native clime
To farther toils asserts its antient claim ;
Yet e’er the Scene be clos’d, succeeding time
Asks some memorial of thy well built Fame.

“Well may this Task some later hours engage,
Of thy fair past the series to retrace ;

Record thy Virtues in th' Historic Page,
But not like Hyde, in Exile or disgrace.

“Blest with each good to which Mankind aspire !
Their thanks, their love, thy Prince & Country Owe ;
And now *what* wish can feed too fond desire ?
Increase of Joy can gracious Heav'n bestow ?

“*What* ? but that those whom Nature has allay'd
The beauteous pattern which thy Actions gave,
May place before them as their lasting guide,
And feel thy generous care beyond the Grave.

“One* shall in Senates, with true Spirit, learn
The Waves of rough commotion to appease ;
The bounds exact of right & wrong discern ;
Retir'd, maintain his dignity & ease.

“One† shall in Arms fair Liberty defend,
In fields of Blood unenvy'd Glory raise ;
Yet, train'd to gentler Arts, humanely blend
The Palm & Olive with the Soldiers Bayes.

“And one,‡ devoted to the noisy Bar,
To follow thee with steps unequal tries ;
On trembling Pinions of weak hope would dare,
O'er rugged ways, thro' heights unknown, to rise.

“Him too may Fate to bless thy slow decline,
Protect, whilst thou sage precepts may'st infuse :
For the long toil prepar'd, he'll not repine ;
Nor Slight the favours of th' inspiring Muse.”

The Lord Chancellor Hardwicke had also two younger sons, John and James. The latter became

* Philip, Viscount Royston, afterwards 2nd Earl of Hardwicke ; born 1720.

† Sir Joseph, K.B., 3rd son of the Chancellor, became a distinguished officer in the army. He was *aid-de-camp* to H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland at the battle of Fontenoy in 1745. In later life he was created Baron Dover. He married the Baroness Christina, only daughter of Baron de Stocken, of Denmark, and died without issue, when the title became extinct.

‡ Charles.

Bishop of Ely. In Ridge Church is a marble tablet with the inscription:—

“To the Memory of James Yorke, Esq^{re} third son of The Honourable and Rev^d James Lord Bishop of Ely, and Mary his wife, only surviving child of the Right Rev^d Isaac Maddox late Lord Bishop of Worcester. He departed this life at Tyttenhanger in this Parish on the 24th of January, 1816, at the age of 49 years.

“This tablet was erected by his affectionate Mother in October 1816.”

Philip, the only surviving child of Catherine, the first wife of the Hon. Charles Yorke, inherited Tyttenhanger.

He was but 13 years of age at the time of his father's death.

When 25 years old he became an admirer of Lady Anne Lindsay,* although much younger than she, and used to frequent her *salon* in London, in company with many other young men. She sent for her sister Elizabeth, then 20 years of age, to stay with her, and soon his admiration was transferred to the younger sister.

On July 24th, 1782, Philip Yorke married Lady Elizabeth Lindsay, youngest daughter of James, 5th Earl of Balcarres. They had issue three sons and four daughters—

1. Philip, Viscount Royston, born May, 1784, died 1st April, 1808.

2. Hon. Charles, born 23rd August, 1787, died 28th December, 1791.

3. Charles, Viscount Royston, born 1797, died 1810.

1. Lady Anne, married, 1807, Viscount Pollington, afterwards Earl of Mexborough.

* Lady Anne married Mr. Barnard, son of the Bishop of Limerick.

2. Lady Catherine Freman,* born 1786, died 1863, having married, 16th October, 1811, Dupré, 2nd Earl of Caledon.

3. Lady Elizabeth Margaret, married, 6th February, 1816, Sir Charles Stuart, created Lord Stuart de Rothesay.

4. Lady Caroline Harriet, married, 1815, Viscount Eastnor, afterwards Earl Soñers.

Lady Elizabeth Lindsay was small, fair, and pretty. From her earliest youth she had shown a great love for poetry, which remained with her all through life; and up to the day of her death, when asked, she could repeat any passage from most of the classical poets by heart.

When a little child, she was sitting one day with her eldest sister, Lady Anne, who was engaged in writing the words of the song "Auld Robin Gray." Pausing to think of some climax to the misfortunes of her heroine, Anne appealed to little Elizabeth, who at once suggested—"Sister Anne, steal the cow." So the cow was "stow'n away." Later, Elizabeth wrote many beautiful verses herself, and amongst several others is one rough copy of a poem in her original childish, round handwriting of 14, the subject which she had to work upon being given by Allan Ramsay, the painter, son of the Scotch poet, and the word was "Comparison." In these verses she cleverly describes the butterfly and caterpillar, taking them as her idea of comparison. Much later, she made a fine translation of *Tasso* into English verse. This was carefully copied four times in a neat Italian hand-

* So named after her grandmother, the first wife of Hon. Charles Yorke.

writing by her eldest daughter, Anne, Lady Mexborough, and each of her daughters was given a copy.

Elizabeth was a wilful, high-spirited child, and, partly with an idea of curbing this spirit, and partly that Lady Balcarres was much occupied with household cares, she sent her to a school where she was harshly treated.

One day, when she had been given, unjustly as she thought, a punishment task from *Entick's Grammar*, it was found afterwards that inside the cover she had written—

“An Address to Entick.

“ Say, dreaded Entick ! cause of infant tears,
Who fill'st the little trembler's heart with fears,
When in the nether shades thou tread'st the way,
To answer for thy crimes in upper day,
Oh say, what chastisement, what fiercer pain,
Shall frowning Rhadamanthus thee ordain ?
Ixion's wheel ? Prometheus' endless groan ?
The fate of Tantalus ? or the rolling stone ?
Not Entick there ; for thou, with deeper aim,
Giv'st to thy blacker crimes a legal name,
And subtle draw'st from Science' earliest page
A sure pretext to plague the rising age.
No hissing furies shall their serpents reach,—
Thy torments, villain ! shall be parts of speech.
The adjective, the substantive, shall aid
To din thy ears with rules thyself hast made.
If for a moment they shall absence plead,
The pronoun shall be ready in their stead ;
Passive or active, still the verb intrude,
Its action ever varying with its mood ;
Articles, adverbs, prepositions,
Shall vex thee with their definitions ;
The weak conjunctions, too, shall help to join
The scientific tortures of the line ;
But yet, in pity to thy abject moan,
The interjections shall be all thy own !”

“For this I was greatly censured by my masters,” she used to say. Strangely enough, though fully aware of the harsh treatment to herself in childhood, she was equally strict to her own children. Finding Catherine quite unmanageable, she threatened her if she did not improve, that she should be sent to the village school ; and soon after, as Catherine still remained intensely naughty, her curls were cut off, a coarse straw bonnet put on her head, a brown frock made to match the other school-girls—for they were dressed alike—and every day she had to go to the village school. We were never told how long this punishment lasted. In both cases the daughters always retained great affection and respect for their mothers.

Some of the prettiest of Elizabeth Lady Hardwicke’s verses were written for the birthday of her eldest boy, Philip, Viscount Royston, when he was at Harrow, in May, 1796—

“Again the jocund month of May,
With all its blossoms fresh and gay,
Returning, brings the happy morn
On which my child, my son, was born.
With what delight thy mother smiled,
Thy father wept and kiss’d his child ;
And first, he thanked indulgent Heaven
For all the blessings it had given,
And next, his secret prayer began
To make his son AN HONEST MAN.
‘An honest man !’ I hear you call,
‘In truth the boon he asked was small !
Why sure, mamma, ’twere strange belief
To think that I could be a thief ;
To rob another of his gains
Indeed were little worth my pains,—

And honesty, besides, I know,
 Consists in paying what I owe.'
 Does it, my child?—no more I ask;
 Nor think thy debt an easy task.
 Wilt thou repay thy parents' care,
 Their earliest thought, their latest prayer?
 Wilt thou repay thy sister's love,
 A faithful, fond protector prove?
 Wilt thou repay the talents lent
 By nature, in their full extent?
 Repay thy friends their feelings kind,
 By best affections of the mind?
 And e'en to fortune pay thy part,
 With open hand and liberal heart;
 —Nor even here thy task will cease,
 For every hour thy debts increase;
 Think not thy filial duty done,—
 Britannia claims thee as her son,
 And bids thee guard, with pious awe,
 Her king, her altar, and her law.
 Thus pay—if erring mortals can—
 The debt imposed by God on man.
 Is then, dear boy, the boon so small?
 Ah! strive, my child, to pay it all;
 And let it be thy anxious care
 To second well thy father's prayer—
 Fulfil the wish that he began,
 And be, like him—AN HONEST MAN!"

Two portraits are at Tyttenhanger of this little boy, his golden hair curling all over his head. One represents him with his sisters Anne and Catherine, teaching their dog to read. The other is a copy from a famous picture by Sir Joshua Reynolds which used to be at Wimpole. The Yorkes were all justly proud of their fine thick hair; they inherited it from both parents; and Elizabeth always prided herself that she and Lord Hardwicke were almost the only couple in their youth who could

both dress it without any false addition—she in powder and he in curls and pigtail. The only remembrance we have of the second boy, Charles, who died when only four years old, is the silky lock of fair hair which his mother had put in a locket, engraved with the record of his age and death.

Philip, Lord Royston, grew up to manhood and became “The honest man,” and was in disposition all that his mother had wished him to be; and when the news of his death was broken to her, she was literally struck dumb, and it was some years before she completely regained the power of speech.

He was in his twenty-fourth year when he was drowned off Lubeck. The ship he was in was wrecked, and all on board took to the boats. Lord Royston, hearing the cries of a woman who was left in the sinking ship, insisted upon going back. He and the woman and all those in the boat with him were never seen again.

Only two years later, Lord and Lady Hardwicke sustained another heavy blow. Their only remaining son died of scarlet fever, contracted at school.

Some letters from Miss Agnes Berry to her sister are written from Wimpole at this time. The first has the postmark, May 1st, 1810—

“Monday Morning.

“Oh my dear Mary, this is a house of terror and affliction. Charles is alive, and that is all I can say . . . last night things remained as I told you—Lady H was somewhat easier and went to bed for a few hours—but a fearful change for the worse has taken place since 4 or 5 in the morning—the pulse has been sinking in spite of bark wine and brandy which has been given every

minute—About 10 Baillie arrived himself which happen what may, is the greater blessing—as it takes off all doubt and anxiety from poor Lady H. of what is done—and thank God—she seems for the present at least in the best state of mind she can be in with such an awful affliction hanging over her head—knowing that little short of a miracle can save him and yet with a sort of gleam of hope—But Baillie has none—a few hours may destroy that last hope.”

“Half past three.

“Heaven support these poor souls my dear Mary, all is over!! this is all I have time to say by Dr Baillie who takes this to Town—so I hope you will get it to-night—Of my own return I have not yet been able to think, if I find I am of no good I shall send for a Chaise tomorrow and come straight home—but do not send the carriage for me, as my leaving them immediately will just depend upon the turn their feelings take and as the event has but just taken place—I cannot judge so instantly whether I can be of any good or not. The poor dear girls are all with me but I have not beheld the afflicted parents—I will write you another line if there is anything to say by the evening Post.”

“Wimpole,

Monday evening.

“My dear Mary, I sent you a few lines by Dr Baillie which I hope you will get to-night telling you the fatal ending here—and I only send this by the Post to tell you not to expect me to-morrow—as I think by what I see at present that I may be of some little use and comfort to the girls at least, and God knows they require it to enable them to be any support to their afflicted Parents, who I saw immediately after I had sealed my note to you—Lady H is quite stunned and stupified—feeling she says as if it was all at a great distance from her—she has not cried at all since it was over—but in spite of this I think she will bear it much better than her last affliction—But poor Lord H’s affliction is really quite affecting to see—his silent anxious looks before and his heart felt groans at present are truly distressing—in a day or two I shall see if I can be of any use—if I can I am sure you would wish me to stay and if not you may depend on my returning immediately—as I really wish to be at home both on your account and my Fathers.

"Lord and Lady Hardwicke's present determination is to remain here—as they say they never should be able to return if they left it now—Whether they will be able to bear it or not after a few days I know not—but such are their feelings at present. The poor Lord H. thinks now that he can never more take an interest in any worldly possessions or concerns.

"God bless you my dear Mary—this is a fearful lesson that I have witnessed.

"My head is aching sadly with tears and anxiety—but I shall be very well after a night's sleep."

"My dearest Mary, My letter is both full and sealed up, but just this minute Catherine has begged me to add a word to you as she thinks it would be a great consolation to Lady Hardwicke to hear that Baillie thought that every thing possible had been done before his arrival—this you might say you had in conversation with him—and express it in strong terms—When we meet I will give you reasons why it is natural that she should dwell upon this idea, and think with horror that it might have been otherways—and this Catherine thinks would do good.

"Franking is not yet thought right in this house so I must make you pay double. The girls send you many loves and are always making enquiries after you."

Up to 1782, the house at Tyttenhanger had been inhabited by Mrs. Charles Yorke, second wife of Charles Yorke, and stepmother of Philip (afterwards 3rd Earl of Hardwicke), Philip Yorke and Lady Elizabeth making occasional visits to the place.

In 1786, paintings and repairs were being made throughout the house, preparations for their coming to reside.

Both Philip Yorke and his father had planted trees over the estate. Part of the old abbot's park at this time was called The Wilderness; some of it was now turned into farm land. Philip took much trouble in the

planting of the present wood round the house, which has also remains of the fine old timber of a previous date.

We believe about this time that the formal avenue from the London road had quite disappeared.

The 2nd Earl of Hardwicke died in 1790, and his nephew, Philip Yorke, became Earl of Hardwicke, and inherited Wimpole in Cambridgeshire.

From Wimpole he and Lady Hardwicke used constantly to drive to Tyttenhanger in their coach drawn by six horses.

Lord Hardwicke was made Lord Lieutenant of Ireland after the Union. He remained there five years, returning in 1806.

In 1811, his daughter, Catherine Freman Yorke, married young Lord Caledon on his return from the Cape of Good Hope, where he was appointed the first Governor when it was ceded to Great Britain.

On this occasion her grandmother, Lady Balcarres, wrote her a characteristic letter :

“Ballcarres, 19 Sept 1811.

“MY D^R KATHRINE YORK,

“I am told you are going to be married, the Advice, of a Grandmother upon that occasion is necessary so here it comes—Beware of Loving your husband too much if you do, it will not be in your power to be a help meet for him, in that case you will be unable to carry him with you to heaven, but he may with ease carry you below. N:B: I hope I have as good an opinion of his principles as your's so that you may go hand in hand to-gether, and I give him leave to squeeze your hand by the way this is not a bad advice from a Girl of 84. My advices regarding matrimony are almost thread bare having admonished four grand children within these six months.

"I would send my blessing to your father and mother, but it is needless they have it already, therefore for the present I bestow it, on You and Lord Caledon.

"Your aff: Grand mother

"ANN BALCARRES.

"by the by this is wrote without spectacles which I did not know till I put up, my hand to take them off."

It was to Tyttenhanger that Catherine came with her parents, to be near London, where she went to meet Lord Caledon on his arrival from the Cape, and after the wedding they spent their honeymoon at Tyttenhanger. Lord and Lady Caledon had an only child, James Dupré,* Viscount Alexander, afterwards 3rd Earl of Caledon. He married Jane, youngest daughter of the 1st Earl of Verulam.

After the death of all their sons, Lord and Lady Hardwicke made Tyttenhanger their home, and he died there in 1834, and was buried at Wimpole. Catherine Freman, Lady Caledon, inherited the estate. To her had been commended the charge of her widowed mother, who remained there until her death at the age of 96, surrounded by her daughters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and numerous acquaintances, and it became a happy meeting-place for many dear friends. Her great friendship with the Berrys continued, and they were constant visitors at Tyttenhanger. Miss Berry

* James Dupré, 3rd Earl of Caledon, by his marriage with Lady Jane Frederica Harriet Mary Grimston, had issue three sons and one daughter—

1. James, 4th Earl of Caledon, the present possessor of Tyttenhanger, married Lady Elizabeth Graham Toler.

2. Walter Philip, married Margaret Katherine Grimston.

3. Charles, married Kate Stayner.

1. Jane Charlotte Elizabeth, married Captain Edmund Barker Van Koughnet, R.N.

corresponded with Sydney Smith. One day, on giving her address at Tyttenhanger, she elicited from him the following impromptu :—

“ Oh pray, where is Tyttenhanger ?
Is it anywhere by Bangor ?
Or, if it is not in Wales,
Can it, perhaps, be near Versailles ?
Tell me, in the name of grace,
Is there really such a place ? ”

Lady Hardwicke's memory never failed, and she had stores of anecdotes from events in her long life which she told with great wit and spirit. When she died in 1858 a link with the past was gone, for it was at the first marriage of her grandfather, Colin, Earl of Balcarres, the favourite of Charles II., that the King gave away the bride.

Lady Hardwicke was buried beside her husband at Wimpole.

During the years when Tyttenhanger was only an occasional abode of the family, the grounds had somewhat fallen into neglect, so Catherine, Lady Caledon, employed herself with repairing and making it comfortable. The entrance had been turned to the back of the house. For the space on the south front, she drew the plan of the present terrace in the form of an Irish cross, which she and her mother had made, and the work was carried out under their own supervision. They collected various shrubs and flowers, and against the south wall of the house Lady Hardwicke planted four magnolias, which she named after four granddaughters, Charlotte, Louisa, Caroline, and Sarah.* The magnolias are growing half-way up the house.

* These granddaughters became—Charlotte Elizabeth, Countess Canning ; Louisa Anne, Marchioness of Waterford ; Lady Caroline Margaret Courtenay ; Lady Sarah Elizabeth Lindsay.

The fine yew hedge was planted by Catherine, Lady Caledon. She also made a new kitchen, laundry, and offices. The stables were rebuilt by her daughter-in-law, Jane, Lady Caledon.

Subsequent to the death of all Lord Hardwicke's sons, a curious fact was noticed at Tyttenhanger. The rooks in one body deserted the place; for many years they remained away, then in happier times they returned as suddenly and mysteriously as they had gone. Their instinct to fly from the family in misfortune was also prophetic, for Catherine, Lady Caledon's only child and heir, died before his mother.

Lord Hardwicke, having no son to succeed him, had bequeathed Tyttenhanger to his daughter, Catherine Freman, so named after her grandmother, who had brought it to the Yorkes; and on the death of her only child, James Dupré, 3rd Earl of Caledon, she then made her second little grandson, Walter Philip Alexander, her heir; but by the advice of her daughter-in-law, Jane, Lady Caledon, she altered her will, and made her eldest grandson, the present possessor, her heir. Her daughter-in-law did not know, until after her death, that, owing to her great affection for her, she had left her a life interest in the estate. Leaving minute written details to advise and assist her in her life here, she closed her farewell letter with these words—

“God bless you, and grant you all a happy eternity, through the merits of Christ our Redeemer.”



87-B21386

Sir Thomas Pope 29

Thomas Cromwell - Harbourn 30

Maryant, Lady Pope (?) 34

Lady Pope (Lady Parlett) 39

Sir Henry Blount - (3) 51 + wife

Sir Thomas Pope - Blount - C. Johnson 55

Lady Tyndal - " 57

Lady Blount - Kneller 65

Mrs Borey " 67

Henry Pope Blount - Gardiner & Van der Vaert 72

Fremmen family portrait 107

Ralph Fremmen wife - Ramsay 107

Hon. Mr Charles York 108

(Ramsay - Hudson - Reynolds)

Charles York 109

Ramsay 6 133

Reynolds 6 136

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(1) 5 March 1982 LRs 1-34

(A number of the York family
portraits were bt. by the firm which
has bought Tyttenbanger.)

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